

Seneca Falls Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes July 21, 2020

The Seneca Falls Development Corporation (the “SFDC” or the “Corporation”) Board of Directors met on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 via teleconference. The link to the meeting was posted on the SFDC website.

Board members present included Board Chair Joell Murney-Karsten, Doug Avery, Jerry Goodenough, Kristin Grillone, Christine VanDusen, Dave DeLelys and Jessica Lorenzetti. Also attending was Greg Zellers, Director of the SFDC.

Meeting called to order at 5:03.

Prior Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes for the June 24, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Christine moved to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Jerry and unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report:

Doug Avery presented a financial report including a Statement of Accounts (credits and debits) held by the SFDC, reflecting figures as of June 30, 2020. They are attached to this document. Jerry moved to accept the report, seconded by Kristin Goodenough and unanimously approved.

Paris/Audit Reports update –

The SFDC’s auditor has filed an extension with the state, which gives her another 4 months to complete the audits. She hopes to have them completed in a couple of weeks. Greg will follow up with the auditor.

New Business:

Canoe/kayak “Canal Staycation” program launched –

The New York State Canal Corporation chose to promote Seneca Falls, along with five other locations across the state, as a hub for canal and trail activities. The Seneca Falls Recreation Center and Fuzzy Guppies kayak rental have been offering a free kayak tour along VanCleaf Lake. Those interested in taking the tour must make a reservation. There is a hope to add bicycle rentals on the bicycle trails to encourage both residents and visitors of Seneca Falls to get outside, be active, and enjoy the natural beauty within the town.

Seneca Machine/FL Technologies building sold –

The SFDC does not have a definitive answer on who has purchased this property. It sold for \$200,000 or less.

Old Business:

10 & 2 Fall Street updates –

There are developers interested in both properties. The Town of Seneca Falls put out another RFP for 10 Fall Street which will be due on Oct. 1, 2020.

Women Take the Stage event –

Finger Lakes Drive-In is hosting a live event featuring music and poetry of local women in honor of the Centennial of the 19th Amendment at 7:30 pm. A national, virtual concert begins at 9 pm and will feature Gloria Steinem, Lily Tomlin, Indigo Girls, and other women.

Seneca Falls 2020 update –

I. Banners/signage: The SFDC is interested in purchasing a 2020 banner for downtown that celebrates the centennial. Christine VanDusen will look into details on banners at approximately \$400. The SFDC is considering the best location for the banner, taking into account the strong winds. The SFDC is also looking into wrapping the windows of empty stores downtown, with the permission of the storeowners. Each window would cost approximately \$200-\$250 if Greg designed, printed, and installed them himself.

II. Events: Christine shared that CVDesigns may be working on a Shop Small Crawl event this fall. More information on that event will be forthcoming.

DRI process and project updates -

The DRI process is moving forward. The State, consultants and Local Planning Committee are holding the last virtual LPC meeting on July 29th. There will be a virtual meeting on July 30th in order to engage the public.

Farmer's Market 2020 Season -

The market moved to the other side of the canal today, July 21st. It will move back to its usual location at People's Park next week. There are signs asking patrons to wear masks, keep their distance, and follow other guidelines put in place in response to Covid-19. Greg reported that patrons have been great about following these guidelines and that the season is going well. The SFDC is looking for someone to fill the market manager position next season.

Member Comments:

There were no additional member comments from the SFDC.

Next Meeting:

Joell Murney-Karsten set the next monthly meeting of the SFDC for Tuesday, August 25th at 5:00 PM to be held in person at FLX Creatives.

Adjourn:

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion by Doug Avery, seconded by Dave DeLelys and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Lorenzetti
Secretary & SFDC Board Member