

SENA Board of Directors

May 2020 Meeting

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SENA Board Meeting

May 11, 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Location: Zoom

7:00 Call to order

Welcome! If we are zoom-bombed, we will shut down the meeting down immediately. Including mid-meeting if necessary.

7:05 Welcome

- Introductions

Diana, Nathan, Adam, Emily, Cheryllyne, Andrew, Scott, Dave

7:10 Approval of consent agenda items - Board Motion Passes

- Agenda for current meeting
- Minutes March 2020 meeting
- Financial Reports

7:20 Guests & Elected Officials

City Council Member Andrew Johnson

- Mayor has instituted a state of emergency so the mayor is now responsible for the Covid 19 response.
- City Council is now meeting weekly (more than normal)
- Small Businesses are suffering financially, and the City itself is also suffering financially.
- Projected Deficit is \$200 million. In perspective, that's a lot!
- Have been working with the State and Federal government as well, though Minneapolis has received \$0.00 from the federal government right now.
- The city is working to prevent large layoffs and prevent large property tax increases.
- Picture will be clearer after the state legislative project ends on May 18th.
- Neighborhoods 2020 timeline for feedback has been pushed back 90 days, though Council Member Johnson suspects that will get pushed back further.
- Very difficult situation all around.

Candace - What is the city council's response to the businesses who don't have access to small business relief money from the City?

Response:

Andrew: The money that the city set aside for small businesses was mostly for historically under-invested populations. Ward 12 businesses have not received any money from that program. We don't have the flexible budget capability of the federal government to borrow much more money. If we were to get more money for this, we would have to raise property taxes.

Candace -

Candace - Does it look like future covid-19 related budget cuts will affect the \$4 million that was set aside from neighborhoods?

Andrew: I don't want to speculate on that right now, but I have been advocating to the Mayor that we get more money into that pot, and we don't think that will happen now. However, there is a CDGB (?) fund for \$150 for MPLS from federal government for small businesses.

Within the legislation that is out there for this type of support, we're seeing that on the federal level these issues are becoming partisan as long as they are old enough. Andrew is hoping that bills that come through congress won't get a partisan tilt like that.

Scott: Are Minnesota's federal representatives in support of this work?

Andrew: I don't know of any Minnesota representatives who are not supportive of this.

Andrew: My suspicion is that the governor will have a lot of pressure on him to open up the state for business now. Nokomis East Business Association did that cool project

7:30 Financial Review

We are looking pretty steady considering the volatility of our situation.

We expect a \$17,000 loss in revenue from the WRBA activities that will be cancelled due to Covid-19. Some of that will be cancelled out by less expenses on our end due to cancelled activities, but we will expect to take a hit financially. Because of that loss of income, we have applied to the PPP (SBA's Payroll Protection Program) to cover it.

7:40 NRP 2020 Plan Modification -Board Motion Passed.

- Request amount \$79,000
- Timeline
 - Public notice out on social media May 12 -31st
 - Final vote at the June board meeting
 - Notice mailed out to all households on May 18th

Nathan: Are we ready to communicate this plan with neighbors in a way that will convey our need in a way that matters to them?

Candace: Yes, we can start tomorrow if this motion passes by the board.

Emily: Do we already have language ready to share out? I want to avoid as many of those issues that we had last year as we can. I think the more this document looks like the 2019 year in review - which was quite results-oriented - the better.

Candace: Sounds good.

Dave: How is SENA going to be in the different world that will come out of this? Will we stop doing Hoops N Hot Dogs and the Green Fair and start a food bank? What will we be?

7: 50 CEE Contract Modification - Board Motion - Passes

- Purpose
 - Shift funds from the revolving loan program to the deferred loan program
 - Add language to the contract that would allow for a less complicated process for moving funds in the future
 - Rebudgeting the remaining funds to cover the service fees for years 3-4

Emily: How much did we originally have in each pool?

Candace: \$120 k in the revolving, and \$85 k in deferred.

Through CEE, we have been able to roughly double the investment amount in the neighborhood because of how CEE adds loan products to each person who applies for our loans.

Emily: So, we as the board would still have to vote to approve changes to the program contract?

8:00 RHS Garden P2 contract amendment - Board Motion - Passes

- Purpose
 - Amendment to contract with HomeGrown Landscaping and Environmental Impact Studio to include some support for the Phase 1 garden plot
 - Funds are available to cover the additional costs associated with the changes
 - Amendment is necessary due to school closures interfering with scheduled student activities to have taken place this spring and summer

Nathan: Phase 2 was additional plantings?

Candace: Phase 2 was a mirror-image plot. It would have been 3,500 square feet, on the other side of the sidewalk, for a total of 7,000 square feet.

Nathan: Sounds good, especially considering how volunteers would be complicated right now.

Candace: Absolutely. Ryan and Justin are ready to do this.

3. Phase 1 Garden Completion & Maintenance Activities

a. May: Purchase, Layout & Installation of remaining plantings; Rhizome barrier for Sunchokes

b. June-August: Monthly garden maintenance: Irrigation, weeding, Seeding c. Plants to fill in: See Plant List Attachment d. Expenses Total: \$565

****Payment Milestone for services 3 total: \$600.00 + \$565 expenses.***

8:10 Board resolution to delay, cancel or hold online meetings and events due to Covid-19 disruptions to large group gatherings. - Board Motion Passes

8:15 Staff Reports

- WRBA
- Website
- N2020 Update
- SUN Group Recovery & Stabilization Program collaboration
- SENA PPP application status

The SUN Group:

Looking to apply for big time funding for lots of neighborhoods to fund independent retail upkeep during closures or lowered use due to COVID-19.

8:30 Adjourn

Board Action Items:

- **Motion to approve consent items:**
 - **March 2020 board meeting minutes**
 - **Agenda**
 - **Financial Report**

 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

- **Motion to approve NRP plan modification to place under contract \$79,000 in program income:**
 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

- **Motion to approve CEE contract amendment:**
 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

- **Motion to approve RHS P2 Garden contract:**
 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

- **Motion to adopt board resolution to delay, cancel or hold online specific meetings and events:**
 - Forwarded:
 - Second:
 - Passed: Yes No

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