



## Special Business District Tax Advisory Commission Minutes

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Meeting Held Via: Zoom

1. Roll Call: Nikki Bisel, Chris Peoples, John Sauter, David Schlafly, Sheila Suderwalla.
2. Approval of the Minutes from June 24, 2020: The minutes were reviewed, and a motion was made to approve the minutes by David Schlafly and seconded by Nikki Bisel. All were in favor and the motion was passed.
3. Account Information: The accounts were discussed but no motions were made.
4. Boards and Commissions: Discussion was had about the new process for board and commission nominations.
  - Concerned the process does not include the submission of a resume.
  - SBD Commission matrix, specific skill sets, and diversity of businesses and property owners represented.
  - SBD Commission's objective is narrow – draw in businesses and help them thrive by advancing the business community.
  - Concerned the council is divided and decisions not getting made.
  - Concerned vacancies are not filled timely which will lead to not having a quorum and important work will not get completed.
  - Does not want to see “friends” appointed but rather individuals that will take the position seriously and who’s skill set will fill a void.
5. Events: The commission agreed to end Wandering Wednesdays on August 26. The commission agreed to cancel Prost! for 2020.

6. Dining Tents: A motion was made by David Schlafly and seconded by Nikki Bisel to keep the dining tents on Sutton and in CNB Park but remove the one located in the Schnucks parking lot. All were in favor.
7. Update: Vacant Commercial Real Estate (attached document)  
David Schlafly informed the commission that 7238 Manchester, 7227 Southwest and 2733 Sutton have interested parties and hope to have signed leases soon.
8. Other Business: The commission discusses the increased homeless population in Maplewood.
  - Approach with compassion and provide resources.
  - Need to look at a global view
  - Small pantries in bus stops and parks circumvent resources, need to be properly addressed.
  - Drain on city resources.
  - No discussion from the council about the needs of our business community.
  - SBD commission craft letter to the council about concern for the business community.
  - Made progress in the 7100 block and don't want to see it go back.
  - Worry about additional issues with more layoffs.
9. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.