

DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
DATE: March 24, 2026

Attendance:

Directors Present: Caya Aufiero, Dainielle Fox, Michael Powers, Dwayne Nelson (via Teams)

Directors Absent: Fadumo Hassan, Ann Smart

Guests: Tabatha Kittrell (note taker), Lisa Otke (SLDC)

Call to Order:

Chair Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5:48 PM and announced that a quorum was present. Tabatha Kittrell took notes.

Public Comments:

Approval of Previous Minutes:

1. Board reviewed and approved previous Board minutes.

Communications & Announcements

1. Received materials from Missouri Main Street Connection:
 - a. Workshop: *Techniques for Recruiting, Selecting, and Working with a Board of Directors*
 - b. Date: April 29
 - c. Location: Jefferson City
2. Additional webinar information to be shared via Teams.

Secretary's Report: Ann Smart

1. No announcements.

Treasurer's Report: Dainielle Fox

1. **Bank Balance:** \$16,495.69
2. **Accounts Receivable:** \$12,967.44 (primarily personal property taxes)
3. **Total Assets:** \$35,398.01
4. **Budget Allocations**
 - a. Capital Improvements: \$67,000
 - b. Cash Flow Reserve: \$40,000
5. **Expenses Noted**
 - a. Staff payments
 - b. Accounting services (LEM)
 - c. Audit-related expenses
 - d. Dutchtown Bells final payment (\$15,000 to Stoked Productions)
 - e. Digital infrastructure (IONOS, CallFire)
 - f. Legal services (Sterling, Leighton & Gershman)
 - g. Fence repair (Empire Fence & Custom Iron)

- h. Miscellaneous (Amazon purchases, supplies)
- 6. **Notes & Follow-Up**
 - a. Some expenses may be miscategorized and will be reallocated before final budget review.
 - b. Missing receipts still being collected.
 - c. Financial reports for January and February uploaded to Teams.
- 7. **Fraudulent Activity**
 - a. Two fraudulent checks identified (November 2025): Approx. \$694 and a smaller amount.
 - b. Actions taken:
 - i. Bank notified and claims filed
 - ii. Signature verification reinforced
 - iii. Ongoing monitoring implemented
 - c. Follow-up:
 - i. Contacting previous treasurers to confirm destruction of old checks
 - ii. Exploring ACH/digital payment options (cost considerations noted)

Program & Committee Updates (Tabatha)

- 1. **Kwema Smart Badge Program**
 - a. Positive participant feedback.
 - b. Vendor agreed to extend program and delay billing until July.
 - c. Board to consider continuation during budget discussions.
- 2. **Community Committees**
 - a. Safer Streets Committee
 - b. Focus: Crosswalk audits and improvements (painting, curb visibility)
 - c. First meeting scheduled next Sunday
 - d. Led by Terry
- 3. **Community Camera Network (CCN) Advisory Committee**
 - a. First meeting scheduled next week
 - b. Diverse representation from across Dutchtown
 - c. Goal: Recommendations on governance and transparency
- 4. **Safer Dutchtown Summit**
 - a. Date: **May 9** - Half-day event
 - b. Participants include:
 - i. Police
 - ii. Circuit Attorney
 - iii. Neighborhood groups
 - iv. Committees will present their work
 - c. Outreach to neighboring districts encouraged
- 5. **CCN Growth**
 - a. New camera network participants added.
 - b. Notable testimonial: Local business owner (Mr. Augustine) joined after experiencing fire damage. Expressed strong support for CCN and referred additional participants.
 - c. Recommendation: Begin collecting written testimonials for communications use.
- 6. **Flock Camera Program Update**

- a. Board previously voted to terminate contract due to:
 - i. National concerns about data sharing practices
 - ii. Reputational risk and loss of community trust
- b. Contract cancellation effective March 1**
- c. Waiting on response from Flock**
- 7. Financial Update**
 - a. CID requested prorated refund (~\$7,000) for unused term through June 30
 - b. Vendor dispute: Flock claims contract was two years (CID maintains it was one year)
 - c. CID position: Strong due to vendor documentation inconsistencies
 - d. Deadline for vendor response: March 31

Old Business:

- 1. Branding & Signage Update (Michael)**
 - a. Working with external agency on:
 - i. Website redesign
 - ii. Business directory
 - iii. CID District branding and signage
 - b. Website Features
 - i. Dynamic homepage with rotating banners
 - ii. Business directory (searchable by category)
 - iii. Storytelling and positive media integration
 - iv. Social media branding assets
 - c. Signage Design
 - i. Multiple design options presented
 - ii. Variations in: white vs. black borders and letter connectivity to graphic elements
 - d. Key considerations:
 - i. Visibility
 - ii. Readability
 - iii. Build feasibility
 - e. Board feedback:
 - i. Preference for white border (higher visibility)
 - ii. Preference for non-connected lettering (better readability)
 - f. Next Steps
 - i. Refine design based on feedback
 - ii. Submit to Board of Public Service for approval
 - iii. Align installation with South Grand infrastructure improvements (June–July timeline)

Announcements:

- 1. Safer Dutchtown Summit on May 9th at the NICstl
- 2. Bloom & Browse Spring Market on April 26th at Intertwine Wine Bar hosted by Dainielle
- 3. 2nd Annual Pre-Mothers Day Event on May 2nd at The Wink Annex
- 4. Paint & Sip by Jenilyn's Boutique on May 3rd

Action Items:

Adjournment:

Dainielle moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24. PM. Seconded by Michael. Motion unanimously carried. Next meeting: April 28, 2026 at 5:30 PM at the Neighborhood Innovation Center (NIC STL), 3207 Meramec, St. Louis, MO 63118 and online at <https://dutchtownstl.org/cidmeeting>.

DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
3207 Meramec Street, St. Louis, MO 63118 <https://dutchtownstl.org/cid>

Minutes submitted by Tabatha Kittrell.