

DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
DATE: April 28, 2026

Attendance:

Directors Present: Caya Aufiero, Dwayne Nelson (via Teams), Michael Powers (via Teams), Ann Smart

Directors Absent: None

Directors Excused: Fadumo Hassan, Dainielle Fox

Guests: Tabatha Kittrell (note taker), Jeni Summers, Walter Grant, SLMPD District 1 Captain Lankford, Dylan Coughlan (via Teams)

Call to Order:

Chair Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5:46 PM and announced that a quorum was present. Tabatha Kittrell took notes. Caya read CID mission statement aloud.

Public Comments:

Approval of Previous Minutes:

1. Board reviewed and voted to approve previous Board minutes.
2. Board reviewed and voted to approve the budget meeting minutes.

Communications & Announcements:

Secretary's Report: Ann Smart

1. Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Dainielle Fox

1. Due to Dainielle's absence, the Treasurer's Report was presented by the Chair.
2. Current bank reconciliation showed approximately \$114,642 on hand as of mid-April.
3. Discussion clarified that recent property tax collections caused the increase in available funds.
4. Outstanding grant compliance; Two prior grant-related issues remain unresolved:
 - a. Grantee DTMS- Virginia lighting installation project
 - b. Grantee DTMS- Pocket park expenditures and final reporting
 - c. Discussion
 - i. Lack of final installation reports
 - ii. Need to determine monies spent and next steps
 - iii. Any future board action – discuss at Budget meeting
5. Sales Tax Revenue
 - a. Estimated annual revenue range: \$120,000-\$160,000
 - b. Urgency in pursuing sales tax implementation
6. Budget process update
 - a. 2026 will be the final year of existing property tax collection
 - b. Additional budget meeting to be scheduled in May.
 - c. Final budget due May 31, 2026

Program & Committee Updates (Tabatha)

1. Community Camera Network
 - a. Board reviewed Flock updates
 - i. CID formally canceled the contract effective March 1.
 - ii. Refund requested for unused prepaid months (\$6,000)

- iii. Flock declined refund but agreed not to enforce a second contract year.
 - iv. CID attorney believes CID is in a favorable position regarding contract interpretation.
- 2. CCN Advisory Committee Update
 - a. Met twice
 - i. Recommendations so far:
 - 1. More visible deterrents (signage and camera lights)
 - 2. Affirmed privacy and data security safeguards
 - 3. Tiered approach to incidents based on severity
 - ii. Future discussions:
 - 1. Public safety context
 - 2. Technology evaluation
 - 3. Flock alternatives
- 3. Safer Streets Crosswalk Audit Update
 - a. Goals:
 - i. Conduct sidewalk and crosswalk audits
 - ii. Evaluate accessibility and pedestrian safety
 - iii. Identify high-priority intersections
 - iv. Recommend low-cost improvements; repainting crosswalks, temporary traffic calming measures, advocacy with city departments
 - b. Citizen suggestion to go to the end of Michigan with the crosswalk
- 4. Captain Lankford
 - a. SLMPD statistics update. Priority areas:
 - i. Shots fired
 - ii. Targeted patrols based on crime analysis
 - iii. Homeless and vacant building issues
 - iv. Traffic enforcement
 - b. Encouraged citizens to file CSB reports for dark corners and overgrown trees
 - c. Discussion
 - i. Vacant property management
 - ii. Commercial truck management
 - iii. Traffic calming
 - iv. Data-driven enforcement
 - v. Community partnership strategies
- 5. Safer Dutchtown Summit
 - a. Date: May 9 – 10am-1pm
 - b. Participants include:
 - i. Police
 - ii. Circuit Attorney
 - iii. Neighborhood groups
 - iv. Committees will present their work
 - c. Outreach to neighboring districts encouraged

Old Business:

- 1. Branding & Signage Update (Michael)
 - a. Board reviewed updated branding and streetscape banner concepts developed by Grown.
 - b. Branding elements:
 - i. “Get in the mix” slogan
 - ii. New Dutchtown typography
 - iii. German Woodpecker mascot
 - iv. Colorful community-focused design themes
 - c. 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
 - v. Site to be launched mid June
- d. Banner Signage Design
 - i. Multiple design options presented
 - ii. Variations in: white vs. black borders and letter connectivity to graphic elements
 - iii. Estimated cost: \$45,000 for 20 banners including installation
 - iv. Discussion:
 - 1. Placement
 - 2. Material
 - 3. Neighborhood identity concerns
 - 4. Potential phased installation
- e. Website Preview
 - i. Board review updated branding website and animated mascot
 - ii. Feedback:
 - 1. Vibrant visual identity
 - 2. Community-focused branding
 - 3. Future use of mascot in signage and placemaking
 - 4. Signs are rust resistant- Uses aluminum bases with vinyl overlays, not painted
 - iii. Next steps:
 - 1. Marketing committee to finalize banner design
 - 2. Kelly Signs proposal remained the leading option after updated pricing and installation adjustments
 - 3. Board discussed a phased installation strategy due to cost constraints
 - a. Full banners at key locations
 - b. Smaller woodpecker signs in additional areas
 - c. Michael continuation of banners down last 2 blocks of Virginia shouldn't be a concern
 - 4. Caya to speak with Alderman Cohn regarding placement concerns and financial support

2. Sales Tax Initiative

- a. Board reviewed updated engagement letter from Lewis Rice.
 - i. Cost not to exceed \$5,000 has been agreed to by Lewis Rice. Caya will sign
 - ii. Legal drafting support for mailers and ballot language
 - iii. Discussion
 - 1. Timing constraint concerns- if we miss the June 15/July 1 Deadline, funds will be delayed until next year. Focus needs to be on expediting and making sure all our regulatory conditions are met to avoid delay
 - 2. Mailer strategy – law firm will help?
 - 3. Public engagement- Take advice from attorney & other CIDs

3. Kingsland Court Entry Repair

- a. Discussion:
 - i. Repair options
 - ii. Potential partnership with city departments
 - iii. Insurance responsibilities- Michael confirmed City was taking this on
 - iv. Potential aldermanic support funding- Insurance concern

4. Roundabout Refresh

- a. Temporary improvements
 - i. Existing improvements reduce crashes
 - ii. Ongoing damage from large trucks remains an issue

iii. Future plans:

1. Permanent artistic installation – in new budget
2. Decorative metal flowers
3. Large visible planter
4. Matching installation at Virginia triangle
5. Estimated installation cost - \$2,500 each

Announcements:

1. Mother's Day Market & Fashion Show – May 2nd at 10 AM
2. Rose Day Event in the CWE
3. Your Place Diner family event
4. Paint & Sip by Jenilyn's Boutique on May 3rd

Action Items:

1. Caya/Ann to reach out to Shane for financing of Banners
2. Dainielle- Last Budget meeting date & Continued: status on Pocket Park & Virginia Lights?
3. Caya to firm up next steps w Lewis Rice Law

Adjournment:

Ann moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35. PM. Seconded by Dwayne. Motion unanimously carried. Next meeting: May 26, 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.