



**Golden Triangle Creative District
December 3, 2020 Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
3PM – Video Conference**

BOARD ATTENDEES:

Aaron Bajorek, Kate Barton, Kristy Bassuener, Lisa Beauchamp, Jeannene Bragg, April Chase, Pete Dikeou, David Eichler, Rachel Fewell, Marlow Hoffman, Tracy Kontrellos, Eric Lazzari, Laura Liska, John Mosley, Liz Orr, Sonia Rae, Brent Snyder, Byron Zick

NOT PRESENT:

Sydney Ilg, Stephanie Kroll (resigned, effective Nov 10 2020)

GTCD STAFF:

Jennifer Larsen

GUESTS:

Jenn Byrnes (Shift Workspaces), Jennifer Gance (finance co-chair), CP Chris Hinds, Toni Palan (resident), Steve Strunk (resident), Sean Walsh (resident)

Welcome/Call to Order (B. Zick)

- B. Zick called the meeting to order at 3:02PM
- Welcome guests
- Approval of November 2020 Meeting Minutes
 - o MOTION: Approve minutes (K. Bassuener/L. Beauchamp)
 - o Minutes approved unanimously

Task Force on Homelessness (L. Beauchamp)

- S. Ilg is leading Task Force, not present today
- Five members, plus 1 additional member just added
- Next meeting is December 9
- Communication is key – who to call, how to secure property, how does the GTCD get more involved, how to reach out to community leaders
- Discussed what items are actionable
- Safe Outdoor Spaces discussion, see letter from CM Hinds shared with the Board

Denver City Council Member Chris Hinds, District 10

- Trying year for Denver. Questions from constituents now different than when he was running for office. Homelessness is a common topic, before and now. Have heard from GT residents and businesses. CP Hinds lives in Uptown, building broken into twice this month, including multiple storage units. 70,000+ constituents and 8500+ businesses in District 10. Office started a process of reaching out to businesses.

- Transportation has been a key topic for District 10. Goal of 20 minutes from everything you need. GT is unique in that many people live, work and play in the neighborhood.
- 75% of calls the office now receives are regarding homelessness – most are from the west side of district
- Doesn't have much authority to take action regarding homelessness – council is the legislative branch of city government
- CP Hinds is working on some of the same things as the GTCD: safety and security, who to call, communication with city leaders
- Downtown Denver Partnership (DDP) also revisiting security protocol
- City wants to make data driven decisions, all data regarding homelessness in one place. Still working on repository. Is it 311? Is it 911? Need to resolve – working on this with other city officials.
- On Nov 30, Dept. of Housing Stability released a new draft of HOST 2021 Action Plan. Has been updated to include \$40M funding anticipated from 2020 ballot initiative. Asking for community input.
- Temporary Safe Outdoor Spaces (SOS) not a good option, but what the city is doing now is not enough
- 13th/Elati enforcement action scheduled for Dec. 8. Channel 7 Building at 7th/Lincoln enforcement action also next week.
- Two SOS sites opening soon in church parking lots (Denver Community Church and First Baptist). Services offered will include job placement, Denver Health mobile van, trash, sanitation, tents, and laundry stations. Fencing around sites. Trying to set up for success – no unsanctioned sites can be nearby. City and Interfaith Alliance agrees. How large is that zone?
- Another neighborhood should be chosen for next site.

Q&A Session (CP Chris Hinds)

- Q: Are you asking for community comments on how the \$40M in funding from the ballot initiative to address homelessness gets spent?
A: Yes, the proposed funding expenditures are in the draft HOST 2021 Action Plan. See news release on Denver.gov website: <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/housing-information/news/2020/Addendum-2B.html>
See public comment survey (English): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7T9CNDC>
See public comment survey (Spanish): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DGHKT6M>
Feedback accepted through December 21.
- Q: Some of the national urban planners – particularly on the East Coast – recognize that the urban areas of our country need to be re-imagined and re-defined. There are obviously serious social problems here in Denver, but the future of Denver and the Golden Triangle – which houses Denver's cultural assets – is highly dependent upon a broader and longer term plan and vision for the city.
A: District 10 has 21 active planning initiatives. Some are citywide, one is specific to the Golden Triangle (zoning process). There are transportation network task forces (regional). List on CP Hinds' website of all planning initiatives. Can provide list to us. Transportation is being addressed, as is density, with group living initiative. A lot of opportunities for community participation.
- Q: How long will the two safe outdoor spaces in Cap Hill exist? Is there a time limit on their permits and can the permits be extended past 6 months?
A: If public health order expires prior to 6 months the SOS will be disbanded within 3 weeks. Both organizations running the first two sites have committed to 6 months, and no more.
- Q: We look to you to advocate for us and for neighborhood businesses. The mayor's office wields a lot of power in regards to homelessness. What can city council do to influence some of these neighborhood concerns?

A: Supporting businesses – shop local, on Board of Clyfford Still. Policy – city council role is to pass laws. Haven't heard people requesting new laws. The majority of comments received from Denver citizens are against sweeps of encampments. No direct authority over police actions. We have a separation of branches of government for a reason – city council is the legislative branch. CP Hinds can advocate on behalf of neighborhood. A lot of homeless advocates live in District 10, so issue is complicated. Some call for stopping sweeps, others call for sweeps. Everyone seems to be on Board with safe outdoor spaces – this compromise is helping.

Golden Triangle and 3 other RNOs started conversations with mayor's office months ago. Since then, 3 additional RNOs have joined positions outlined in initial letter. 7 RNOs unified for improvements in homelessness. Haven't seen much action from city council. How can CP Hinds advocate for RNOs with other council members? Let him know. GTCD Task Force to present requests of CP Hinds. Did advocate for enforcement action at 13th/Elati.

- Q: District 10 policies – how can we be helpful to CP Hinds so that he hears from us?

A: City Council meets every Monday evening, public can comment. One way for entire body to hear from community. Contact District 10 office to sign up – need to hear from multiple voices.

- Q: Anything additional to share with Board?

A: Working on better ways to communicate with residents and businesses. Have someone working on outreach to 8500 district businesses. Working on new website, to be released in next week or two. Will change way of communicating, better way to get information out. Looking for input once released. Survey went out to RNOs requesting top 3 issues.

GTCD Budget and Membership Update (A. Chase/L. Beauchamp/T. Kontrelos)

- Current financials:

- o Budget – In October, \$7K expenses and \$300 membership in October
- o \$102K+ in operating account

- Current membership:

- o Waiting on December Membership committee meetings before projecting for 2021 budget. Will cover 2021 budget at January Board meeting.
- o Great committee, meeting every two weeks until we get on track
- o Researching membership online platforms, link shared with Board to Wild Apricot demo
- o CNDC – discount available on a different program, but doesn't offer as much
- o Everything becomes automated, members can log on to share information, discounts and events. Platform works with current website.
- o Costs – Wild Apricot, 30 days free trial. Have been looking at system for 15 days now. Tiers depending on number of members, 500 members is \$90/month
- o Opportunity to communicate more easily, invoicing membership coming due. Can communicate about other items too.
- o Next month committee is likely to ask for approval to add to budget.
- o Current invoicing letters can be uploaded to system
- o It can also work with other website platforms
- o Had discussed earlier the need to dedicate 10-12 person-hours per month for invoicing and membership tracking. It will probably save us money by going online.
- o Board involvement with larger donors in the past. Requesting guidance for securing relationships and making contact.
- o Can Urban Design committee assist with developer and decision-maker contacts – people who might want to get more involved in GT? Laura can forward names/contact information of people who present at meetings. What are people comfortable with?
- o Other Board members welcome on committee

Holiday Party (A. Chase)

- Dec 16, 5 pm – Welcome and virtual cocktail hour with a demo. Ordering 50 experience boxes, available to members while supplies last. GTCD updates and Q&A, prerecorded tours of 4 GT galleries (20-30 minutes). Just highlighting one not equitable.
- Will work with a local caterer
- Invite to go out soon. Will probably go out on Tuesday. With virtual one week notice is fine.

Committee Reports (All)

- Executive Committee (B. Zick)
 - o January Board meeting will be Jan 7
 - o Pitch for EC members for 2021. Reach out to Byron if interested.
 - o CO Gives Day GT campaign on Dec 8
 - o Stephanie Kroll resigned, effective Nov 10 2020
- Community Affairs Committee (L. Orr)
 - o No updates
- Events Committee (A. Chase)
 - o See above
- Governance Committee (L. Beauchamp)
 - o Bylaws updates
 - o Will reach out to committee chairs for role descriptions, to be included in bylaws
 - o Board vacancies updates
 - o Thank you to all who renewed Board terms
- Membership Committee (L. Beauchamp/T. Kontrelos)
 - o See above
- Neighborhood Improvements Committee (S. Ilg)
 - o See Committee Report document
- Urban Design (L. Liska)
 - o Westword sign review presentation at December 10 committee meeting
 - o New GT development at 14th & Fox will be discussed at January 14 meeting
- Public Events Liaison (R. Fewell)
 - o Winter in the City and Christkindl Market, bulk of what's happening
 - o Parade of Lights through Dec 31 – 10 floats are throughout Downtown so you can see them up close
 - o Lighting added to Civic Center Park on Great Lawn

Staff Report (J. Larsen)

- We will need to apply for Creative District recertification next year – Kristy suggested I touch on our relationship with CCI.
- First a little background information on our structure for those who are newer to the Board. We are both a Denver Registered Neighborhood Organization or RNO and a certified Colorado Creative District.
- RNOs are groups formed by residents and property owners within a neighborhood who meet regularly and whose organizational and contact information is kept on file with the City. There is a set of eligibility requirements laid out in a Denver ordinance, and registration is renewed annually. The broad intent of the ordinance and the reason for RNOs is to facilitate communication between the city and its members.
- Colorado Creative District certification comes from Colorado Creative Industries (CCI), which is a division of the state's Office of Economic Development & International Trade. Creative Districts are hubs of economic activity that are intended to enhance the area as an appealing place to live, visit and conduct business, as well as generate new economic activity. The mission

of the Colorado Creative District Program is to recognize districts that are contributing to Colorado's economy through creativity, culture and the arts.

- Creative Districts are offered access to grant funding, technical assistance, networking and training programs, and access to advocacy tools.
- Districts must go through a rigorous application and certification process to become a Creative District and they must be recertified every five years. The GTCD was certified in 2016 and we will need to apply for recertification in 2021. I may be reaching out to specific Board members to assist with this process.
- We also have to submit 3 quarterly reports and one annual report every year to maintain our status. The quarterly reports lists key accomplishments, challenges and concerns, and current or upcoming work, and the annual report requires more detail, including District statistics. I have uploaded our CCI reports to the admin folder on the Google Drive. These reports are good sources of information about what we're doing and can be utilized for District promotion. (Reports available for non-Board members? Yes.)
- Some of the information on our website pages, What's Open in the Triangle and the COVID Support pages are outdated. I will address next week and may be reaching out to some of you for updated information.
- Thank you to all who have helped promote our CO Gives Day campaign. Westword assisted with a promotional email blast this morning.

Adjourn (B. Zick)

Meeting adjourned at 4:26PM