



**Golden Triangle Creative District
2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
Video Conference via Zoom Webinar
February 4, 2021 | 5:30-6:45 PM**

Call to Order/Welcome (Executive Committee Member, Byron Zick)

- Meeting called to order at 5:30PM
- Opening Remarks
 - o B. Zick kicked off the meeting, introduced himself and Sydney Malone from Executive Committee
 - o B. Zick gave overview of the meeting with speakers and Q&A. Questions should be posted in the chat for speakers to answer during Q&A.
 - o GTCD overview of the organization, its mission and goals
 - o S. Malone gave an overview of the accomplishments of GTCD in 2020 (full details in accompanying slide deck)
 - Public Improvements – Four additional creative trash receptacles installed with CCI grant funding
 - Removed neighborhood trash weekly during Saturday morning “Litter League”
 - Designed and installed 15 new branded pet station signs featuring neighborhood dogs
 - COVID-19 business/neighborhood information and support. Promoting local businesses.
 - Hosted Colorcon 2020 mural event. 12 female artists. 900 socially distanced, masked attendees.
 - Developed paid social media campaign June-Sept. to drive traffic to GTCD business listing webpages. 300K new impressions on our site promoting local businesses.
 - Advocacy for neighborhood overall, including zoning process. B. Zick gave an update on zoning. Starting to wrap up after about 24 months with changes we hope will lead to improvements in the Golden Triangle. For questions about zoning process, email admin@goldentriangleofdenver.com for details.
 - Homelessness Task Force formed to provide real time feedback and perspective on issues of homelessness in the Golden Triangle to government officials. Temporary Safe Outdoor Spaces were discussed.
 - How to join GTCD details provided to all meeting attendees. Also details provided about how to connect with city leaders and reporting issues at 311.
 - o B. Zick discussed 2021 Goals
 - Tree Planting – 10 trees planned for spring. Additional 10 later in the season. Four dead ash trees will be removed in the neighborhood as well.
 - In-Person Events – Coming in 2021

- Membership – Increase membership and outreach into the Golden Triangle
- Homelessness & Security – Address challenges and create opportunities in the current environment

Denver Dept of Housing Stability (Chris Conner, Director)

- Administration and planning of Homelessness Resolution Sales Tax
 - Department of Housing Stability (HOST) – Directing homeless solutions
 - Highlighted the people that HOST serves
 - Highlighted project at Denver Coliseum that helps women experiencing homelessness
 - HOST is a new department formed by the Mayor end of 2019. Maturation of many steps that led to its formation. First city affordable housing fund developed in 2016. Now a \$30M Affordable Housing fund. Money is channeled toward preservation of housing and funding services.
 - Learned that there were several city agencies doing that work. Analyzed the city structure to develop a more coordinated, efficient solution. Mayor appointed first cabinet-level officer of Housing.
 - Department is focused on investing resources and developing partnerships to fulfill the vision of everyone in Denver in sustaining housing that is safe, person centered, trauma informed, data driven work.
 - Serve people at street-level homelessness, emergency homelessness. Creating housing opportunity through market-rate options.
 - Homelessness Resolution/Housing Stability/Housing Opportunity – Three key areas of the Department’s work
 - Stability – How do we keep people in the homes they already are in?
 - Opportunity – Create opportunities for people to move further into housing market.
 - Denver has affordability problems. Low housing stock/slower development of affordable housing. Larger city problems. Same space, more people.
 - Ballot Measure 2B passed in November 2020
 - \$37M expected to be generated from sales tax in first year
 - Funds will support people experiencing or exiting homelessness
 - Housing development/expanding shelter space/connection to housing resources
 - Rental assistance or other support services
 - Further engagement with the GTCD Task Force

Denver Mayor’s Office (Evan Dreyer, Deputy Chief of Staff)

- Updates about encampments and enforcement actions
 - Evan highlighted the work that HOST is doing is already making a difference
 - Talked about encampments and cleanups
 - City is being challenged in federal court regarding its ability to address encampments. Recent ruling slowed the city down and postponed cleanup work. Plaintiffs at Homeless Out Loud sought immediate injunction on cleanups. Judge halted that process, but did address notification procedures for how encampment residents needed to be informed about cleanups.
 - Hope to get to encampments on Bannock/Cherokee and 10th/11th soon
 - Another piece of the judge’s ruling is about notification procedures. Even if there is an emergency, 48-hour notice required before public health & safety teams can address an emergency situation in an encampment. City will appeal this ruling
 - Cleaning encampments forthcoming next week, weather permitting.

- We can all agree that we wish we didn't have people living on streets. Pandemic has made matters worse. Can't allow encampments to grow, create dangers and hazards from health and safety perspective. Top priority – how do we connect people to alternatives?
- There are overnight spaces for people, but not always filled. There are two tiny home villages, plus two temporary Safe Outdoor Spaces. Looking to create a third SOS site, making its way through City Council right now.
- Call 311 or go online to 311 for assistance with these issues

Civic Center Conservancy (Eric Lazzari, Executive Director)

2021 Projects, Programming, and Challenges

- Civic Center Conservancy (CCC) are champions and stewards of the historic Civic Center Park.
- Their CAUSE – Conserve, Activate, Unite, Strengthen and Engage
 - Conserve – Launching tour program for art, architecture and stories
 - Activate – Civic Center Eats/Moves, Civic Center LIVE, Christkindl Market and Great Lawn Lights
 - Unite – Bringing together park neighbors and stakeholders. Campus approach with DAM and DPL. Work together on projects and solutions.
 - Strengthen – Capacity and Governance
 - Engage – the community
- Civic Center in 2021 – What would YOU like to see in the park in 2021
 - Add your ideas to the chat
- Christkindl Market was a big win for 2020. Hope to build upon this in future years.
- New Initiative: “Civic Center Next 100.” What is the story that will be told about Civic Center in next 100 years?
 - Next 3 to 5 years. Planning, projects, construction to shape the park for generations to come.
 - Phase 1: Civic Center Park and Bannock St. Design - Four key areas
 - Bannock St permanent public plaza
 - Improve Central Promenade
 - Build Greek Theatre into world class performance space
 - Create new gathering area in the Central Promenade
 - Planning to take place in the next six months
 - Community can engage in the process. Next week is first round of community engagement. Online Public Workshop on February 11 at 5:30PM
 - Final designs by summer 2021. Fundraising underway.

Housekeeping Topics

- Approval of February 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
 - Motion carries, minutes approved unamended.

Q&A Session

- **Encampment on 10th between Cherokee/Bannock.** Posted at encampments this week. Cleaning encampments starting next week. Hope to post this particular encampment week after next, subject to weather. (Evan Dreyer)
- **How big does encampment have to be before city gets involved?** New early intervention team pairs Denver Human Services with DFD and DPD Homeless Outreach Team. Reach out to smaller encampments before they get large, address issues – offer services and rooms/hotel spaces. Prioritize health, safety, environmental issues to get cleanups posted. (Evan Dreyer)

- **What are we doing to address needs of property owners/reduced property values?** Trying to protect everybody and be as responsive as we can be in addressing these encampments, while complying with federal court orders. We want people to remain in the neighborhood. I sympathize with these challenges – we need to work together to make a difference. (Evan Dreyer)
- **What about tents on 11th?** We will make sure early intervention team gets over there tomorrow. (Evan Dreyer)
- **What causes the delay with posting cleanups?** Federal court ruling that came down a couple weeks ago. Can't violate new order. Now back out posting again. (Evan Dreyer)
- **How do you address people who refuse to take services?** Diversifying our approaches. Have about 6 different teams, which specialize. Early intervention. Strategic outreach to large encampments. Moving people to care vs. moving along. Engaging in different ways. Part of what we are seeing right now – very salient presence of people with complex issues who don't want to come inside. Seeing a lot more. (Chris Conner)
- **How is Civic Center handling challenges in the park?** Civic Center has long served as a place to congregate, although there are no encampments. Civic Center is a public space, you should be allowed to use that space regardless of your housing status. Conservancy is a nonprofit, no enforcement arm. Partners with library on some of their services. For COVID safety will continue to advocate for being outside. (Eric Lazzari)

Board of Directors Elections – (Governance Committee Chair, Lisa Beauchamp)

- Introduce slate of 2021 Board Candidates – Candidates introduced themselves
 - o Jennifer Gance – GTCD resident since 2016. Loves the neighborhood and its energy. Volunteered at Colorcon.
 - o Steve Strunk – Economist, banking. Art lover. Wharton School grad. Fraud examiner for last 10 years.
 - o Sean Walsh – 45-year resident of Denver. Real estate investors/apartments. Duplex on 13th and Elati across from Element hotel. Renovated the duplex. Looks forward to working to address some of the issues in the neighborhood. Runs political consulting business.
 - o Lisa moved to add David Pietsch to the Board slate. David moved to Denver from Honolulu. Real estate investor. Runs Alpine Investments, infill properties in Denver.
- Final call for nominations of Board members
 - o No nominations
- Vote to approve adding David Pietsch to the Board slate
 - o Motion approved by 85% of members and Board
- Vote for slate
 - o Motion approved 91% of members and Board

Adjourn

- Meeting Adjourned 6:41PM