

CITY OF PLYMOUTH  
PLYMOUTH REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020 7:30 AM

Official Meeting Minutes

- 1. Call to Order – Roll Call:** Chairman Gentine called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM. Members present were Lee Gentine, Donna Hahn, Jackie Jarvis, John Nelson and Randy Schwoerer. Deputy Clerk / Treasurer Anna Voigt, Cheese Counter General Manager Tracy Foss, Plymouth Chamber Executive Director Mary Hauser, Patrick Campbell from The Depot and Interim City Administrator Cathy Austin were also in attendance.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Jarvis moved to approve agenda; Nelson seconded. Motion carried.
- 3. Approval of May 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes:** Jarvis moved to approve the minutes; Hahn seconded. Motion carried.
- 4. Discussion and Possible Action on Streetscape Arches:** Gentine passed around updated renderings for the arches. Gentine has been working with Poblocki. The blue font color has been decided, it is Los Angeles Lakers Blue. The cheese block looking base was updated to a creamer color instead of a bright yellow. The background white color has been updated, but Gentine thought it didn't look much different. The arch is 40' wide and 24' high at its highest point. Gentine mentioned they were not able to integrate planters into the base. The backside will stay blue and has the possibility to have a digital sign. The sign can project a signal 3 ½ miles away so it can be controlled anywhere downtown. Foss stated it was a great idea. The Cheese Counter currently rents out the sign at Veteran's Park and there are always people interested. Gentine asked Interim Administrator Austin about the budget for the arches. Austin stated it would be unlikely the City would pay for the project. Most of the budget goes towards road, water, sewer infrastructure which takes precedence over projects like this. Nelson stated that the project would have to be done by donation. Jarvis asked Austin when the RDA needed to make a request to the Council. Austin stated that she is already working on the budget. The committee would need to get an estimate and request it as soon as possible. Gentine mentioned that Plymouth Advancement Association could take over the financial responsibilities and could handle asking for donations. Plymouth Advancement is a non-profit (c)(3) organization founded in 1994. They have helped with other projects in the area and are sponsoring Fire Fest this year. Hahn suggested adding a plaque on the back from all the donators. Gentine said that it would be hard to add all the names. Jarvis stated the arches are a great idea, but didn't like the stark white background. Schwoerer asked if the sign was going to be tall enough for semi's to get under. Austin stated she would like to know what the measurement at the low point of the sign. She was also concerned about the bases blocking the sight line for people pulling out of the gas station. Gentine stated he can talk to Poblocki about the next steps and Nelson can make a request to Council. Gentine stated that the arches could possibly be up by the end of the year. Jarvis made a motion to have Gentine ask Poblocki for an estimate, all financial fundraising will be done through Plymouth Advancement Association, and Nelson will make a request to the Council. Nelson seconded.
- 5. Update on Walldog Mural Maintenance / 2020 Walldog Event:** Gentine stated that the date September 10 still worked for 4 of the artists. The Walldogs have a major event in Illinois the same time. Debbie Karr would also probably not be able to attend the event in September.

Gentine asked if the Chamber will be holding any events in September. Hauser stated that Family Night has been cancelled. Hahn stated that the Jazz Crawl has also been cancelled. She stated it was difficult to get bands and volunteers. Gentine asked for everyone's opinion on holding events. Austin stated that the City is allowing the Municipal Band to play Thursday nights at the City park. The City is allowing park rentals because there is enough room to maintain a 6 ft distance outside. Nelson stated he trying to be careful, wearing a mask and limiting contact. Jarvis stated the farmers market is still happening. She stated that people are starting to get desperate to do anything and its tough to make a decision because there are people on both sides. Campbell stated his restaurant is open and he thinks they should go ahead and hold the event and see what happens. Foss stated she is being cautious. She has the team members at the Cheese Counter wear masks. Denise is the one who handled all the volunteers from the original Walldog event. She stated it may be hard to get enough volunteers. Schwoerer stated that he is working at Miesfelds and they had one of their biggest months. There are two sides there is no in-between. Schwoerer stated he thinks they should go on with the event and see what happens. Gentine stated that the biggest problem is going to be getting volunteers. Schwoerer made a motion to move the Mural Maintenance event to 2021. Hahn seconded. Motion carried.

**6. Update from Cheese Counter General Manager:** Foss stated they have been open for 3 weeks now. Foot traffic is lighter. She has been working on the new software. There are 600 line items to enter. Foss said she lost 3 people due to COVID and she has 2 more interviews to replace them.

**7. Communication – Letters, E-mails, or Reports Related the Redevelopment Authority (Staff, Chairperson, Members etc.):** Gentine stated that Over Easy Flipped has opened and applied for a sign grant. Jarvis and Schwoerer talked about welcome folders. They have plain pocket folders that they will be adding logo stickers too. Jarvis has been in contact with real estate agents and will be giving them a few folders.

**8. Adjournment:** Schwoerer moved to adjourn the meeting; Jarvis seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by: Anna Voigt, Deputy Clerk / Treasurer