

# Saranac Lake Local Development Corporation

Monthly Meeting Minutes | March 13, 2024

**Location:** The Carry, 75 Main Street, Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**Present:** Jeremy Evans, Stephanie Bolduc Mikesell, Matt Scollin

**Absent:** None

**Virtual:** Jessica Kemp, Blythe Niles-Lisner

Board Chair, Stephanie Mikesell, called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

## **Minutes:**

Jeremy Evans made the motion to accept the January 10, 2024 meeting minutes as they were presented. Matt Scollin seconded the motion. The January 10, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved (5-0-0).

Jeremy Evans made the motion to accept the February 14, 2024 meeting minutes as they were presented. Matt Scollin seconded the motion. The February 14, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved (5-0-0).

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Stephanie Mikesell reported:

- Informed the Board that Treasurer Andrew Milne resigned, leaving Stephanie as acting Treasurer.
- Quickbooks has been turned back on with a \$15/month promotional rate to issue Nick Rodgers, the muralist, a 1099 for work performed in 2023. When the promotional period ends, the Board will need to revisit which Quickbooks package to purchase. Current options are: \$75/month, \$145/month, or \$97/year.
- It was clarified that the Board does not need to escheat the St. Regis funds as they belong to the SLLDC.
- The Operating Account balance is \$353.37 and the Grants Account balance is \$3,137.98.

## **Old Business:**

### **Statutory Requirements Review:**

- Jessica Kemp confirmed ABO training is complete and will forward the certificate to the Board Chair. Jeremy Evans and Matt Scollin do not need to register for training in 2024. Blythe Niles-Lisner still needs to register.
- Stephanie Mikesell asked that all completed notarized forms be emailed to her if they have not been already.

### **Funding Ideas from Strategic Session:**

- The Board narrowed down a list of organizations that might be able to provide funding if needed: Stewart's Shops, Franklin County Tourism, Cloudsplitter, National Grid, St Joe's & Citizen Advocates, Bionique, the Town of Harrietstown, and the Town of North Elba. The Board agreed that the SLLDC needs to begin building relationships with these organizations but points of contacts were not assigned.

### **Review of Project Ideas:**

- **New:** Jeremy Evans introduced the Flower Pot Project (FPP), starting with the Church Street bridge estimated around \$600. Future iterations could include the George LaPan Memorial Highway bridge. Jeremy will create a budget and layout next steps, which include funding, permitting, and execution in coordination with the Village of Saranac Lake Parks and Recreation department. It was speculated that

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potential donors could come from nearby businesses: RiverTrail Beerworks, Adirondack Bank, Champlain National Bank, Nori's, and Grand Union.

- **New:** The Board posited what could be done to make Lake Colby Beach a more convenient community space. Perhaps some signage to mimic Riverfront Park, a way to connect the Rail Trail to the beach, or signage directing pedestrians to the beach mimicking Moody Pond's.
- Long-term projects still include the pop-up kitchen and the Lake Flower Ave improvements.
- The Board will also reach out to other advisory boards to inquire about other potential projects that the SLLDC could help bring to fruition. Matt Scollin will talk to the Housing Task Force. Stephanie Mikesell will speak with the Arts & Culture Advisory Board and PTAB. The Downtown Advisory Board will also be contacted.

## **Committee Meetings:**

Stephanie Mikesell reported:

- Finance committee meeting will meet at March 14th at 1pm.

Jeremy Evans reported:

- the Governance committee will need to put together an annual report by 3/31/2024. Stephanie Mikesell has completed this in the past and will send over previous versions to the Governance Committee.

## **New Business:**

### **Recap of February's working session:**

Stephanie Mikesell reported:

- Jeremy Evans, Stephanie Mikesell, and Jessica Kemp decided not to move forward with the BluPen project because the artist was not aligned with the timeline.
- The pop-up kitchen is a stationary food truck, but is something that is subsidized so people can decide if they want to get into the restaurant business. It is likely a three to five year project, so the Board would need substantial funding as well as a location.
- Stephanie Mikesell will draft up the SLLDC Interest Form via Google Forms to review.
- The SLLDC now has ownership of the Facebook group.
- Stephanie Mikesell has set time on her calendar to set up a Post Office Box.
- Jessica Kemp has a preliminary website via Wix.

Matt Scollin reported:

- The Village of Saranac Lake is looking into creating a new website. Perhaps the SLLDC's website can fit into the new security system.

### **6-er Funds:**

Stephanie Mikesell reported:

- The Chamber of Commerce now has administrative management of the 6-er funds. The Chamber of Commerce will get a percentage of the funds for mailing and management, then cut the SLLDC a check quarterly for the net revenue. The SLLDC can expect the first check in April. Until the Scarface bridge is fixed, the income will be down.
- Patrick will need to confirm if any 6-er revenue collected prior to Chamber management was kept at the Village or transferred to the Chamber.

### **Village Board Budget Request:**

Matt Scollin reported:

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- Village Trustee Kelly Brunette requested \$25,000 for the SLLDC.

Jeremy Evans reported:

- The Village funding would allow us to get the SLLDC on its feet, but the goal is to become financially independent and self-sustaining.

## **SLLDC Recruitment:**

The Board is still looking for two more members.

## **Adjournment:**

Matt Scollin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Mikesell seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0-0). The Board meeting was adjourned at 5:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Kemp

Secretary