



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
Monday, February 24, 2020
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
23 Royce Circle**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Steve Bacon, Diana Pelletier, Betsy Paterson, Frank Gifford, and Sean Vasington

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

Guests: Shamim Patwa, Steve Ferrigno

1. Call to Order

Steve Bacon called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of January 27 Minutes

Betsy Paterson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Diana Pelletier seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Exit Interview with former Board member Shamim Patwa

Mr. Bacon welcomed Shamim Patwa and asked her to speak on her experience as a Partnership Board member.

Ms. Patwa said she enjoyed being a voice for the town's people. She said she continued to struggle with the mandate of the Partnership after Storrs Center was built especially around fundraising. Fundraising is difficult without a socially conscious mandate. Ms. Patwa also noted the challenge of determining what the Town does vs. the Partnership vs. the commercial property owners. Has the Partnership taken on a void, which others should or could be filling?

Committee members thanked Ms. Patwa for her contributions to the Board of Directors and for taking the time to meet for an exit interview.



5. Orientation of new Board member Steve Ferrigno

Steve Ferrigno arrived for his Board orientation. The Committee provided an orientation for Mr. Ferrigno who is a newly appointed Board member by the Town Council.

Mr. Ferrigno agreed to serve on the Finance Committee.

6. Update on Board and Officer positions

Mr. Bacon said he is meeting with a prospective Board member this week and should be able to report back to the Committee at the March meeting.

Ms. Paterson said she and Ms. Pelletier still need to meet with another potential Board member.

There was some discussion of E.O. Smith High School student involvement. Mr. Vasington was going to follow-up on more information on the DECA organization at E.O. Smith. Its entrepreneurial mission may make its members a good fit for Partnership involvement.

Update on Honoring June Krisch

The Committee reviewed the progress to date on identifying a way to honor June Krisch and suggested edits to wording for a potential plaque. A mockup will be developed.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Minutes prepared by Cynthia van Zelm