



Downtown Bend
Business Association
Post Office Box 731
Bend, Oregon 97709 (541)
788-3628
DowntownBend.org

Attendance: Samuel Johnson, Ed Deenihan, Todd Looby, Rick Wright, Lauren Kelling, Ben Hemson, Chris Piper. By phone: Ray Solley and Juli Hammond. Staff: Mindy Aisling, Barbara Simms, Ryan Currence. Guests: CJ, Tobias, Mike, Terrence.

SAMUEL JOHNSON
Oxford Hotel
Board President
ED DEENIHAN
Bend Brewing
Company
Vice
President
TODD LOOBY
Bend Film Director
Treasurer
JULI HAMMOND
Joolz
Secretary
RAY SOLLEY
Tower Theatre
Director
RYAN SMITH
Goody's Chocolates
Director
RICK WRIGHT
916 NW Wall
Owner
Director
LAUREN KELLING
Oregon Body & Bath
Director

Ex-Officios

CHRIS PIPER
Bend City
Councilor

BEN HEMSON
City of Bend

Staff

MINDY AISLING
Executive Director
BARBARA SIMMES
Administrative Director
RYAN CURRENCE
Operations Manager

1. Administration & Updates

8- 8:15

a. Approve minutes from last meeting (Sam) – Sam made a motion to approve the minutes from Aug and September. Ed seconded that motion, all approved.

b. Board Member Updates and Comments (All)

- Halloween was successful
- Tin Pan is hosting a taco breakfast in December
- Mindy suggested that we invite Dan from The Commons to a future board meeting to discuss use of the plaza.

c. Treasurer report (Todd)

Todd reported that we were down on EID income and total sponsorship, and that our expenses were under by about 17K. He asked Barbara for a collapsed report in future months, and staff agreed to have the financials printed to review at the board meetings.

d. Embrace Bend request (Mindy)

Mindy asked the board if they were interested in backing Embrace Bend in their efforts to reduce white supremacy in Bend. At this time the board did not see this as a core component to their scope and reach.

e. Art walk cups update (Mindy)

Mindy explained the art walk going 'green' and that the DBBA's role would be as a flow-through for invoicing, so the board would see that on a future budget.

2. Events in Downtown

8:15- 9:00

a. Update (Mindy, Chris, Ben)

Mindy reviewed the history of the conversation between the DBBA and LIOE.

- Dec 5th – Mindy presented at the COB end-of-season events review. Here the DBBA shared with event organizers 15 things they could do differently to help businesses succeed and they shared 4 things the COB could do to help Downtown businesses succeed during events. Luke Larsen, event director for LIOE and Mindy spoke after the meeting and set up a future meeting to discuss further
- Jan 23rd – Mindy had lunch at Barrio with Luke to discuss the DBBA's requests
- April 19th – Mindy had lunch at Café Sintra with all downtown event organizers (Luke, Scott & Shannon) to discuss DBBA's requests in regards to events in Downtown.

- June 19th – Mindy and Aaron Switzer, owner of LIOE met to discuss the DBBA’s requests
- July 31st – Mindy reaches out to Aaron via email, bcc’ing Ben Hemson and Chris Pipe,r outlining the DBBA’s planned requests to Council and asking Aaron to work with the DBBA and co-present at Council on Sept 4th. Aaron never responded to this email.
- Aug 6th, DBBA held a merchant meeting on the impact of events in Downtown. Mindy invited Aaron, Aaron declined to attend.
- Sept 4th – DBBA presents at Council. Mindy reaches out to Aaron and invites him to attend, even though he had declined working together. Aaron does not attend.
- Sept 17th – Mindy presented to the Chamber. Mindy reaches out to Aaron and invites him to attend. He declines.
- Oct 10th, Mindy meets with Aaron to discuss the DBBA’s requests in regards to events in Downtown. Aaron agrees to attend the next board meeting on Nov 13th.
- Oct 10th – Oct 28th – Aaron meets with DBBA board members, Ed, Same and Todd individually.
- Oct – Nov – Mindy, Ed and Sam meet with subcommittee members, Councilors, Abernathy, Campbell and Piper.
- Mayor Sally Russell requests to meet with Mindy and Aaron. Sam and Ed advise to postpone the meeting until after the already scheduled board meeting and sub-committee meeting.
- Oct 28th – Aaron emails Mindy to notify her that he is no longer willing to attend the DBBA board meeting
- Nov 10th – Mindy learns via the City Manager’s memo that the subcommittee meeting had been changed. The DBBA received no communication from City Staff or City Council about this change.
- Nov 12th – Piper informs that the DBBA that Sally Russell postponed the subcommittee meeting until January and said that a meeting between the DBBA and LIOE was required before the subcommittee met. The DBBA was never made aware of this prerequisite.

Mindy asked board, particularly Sam, Ed , Ben and Chris who had been a part of these discussion if there was anything to correct about her timeline of events or anything to add to the timeline of events. No one had any corrections.

b. Wins (Mindy, Chris, Ben)

Did not discuss

c. Options for next steps (Mindy, Board discussion)

The board discussed possible ways to move forward. One board member mentioned the idea of a site change and Mindy shared that Ed and Sam had tasked her with this research and that by moving the event 2 blocks to the North or the South would result in a over 90% reduction in businesses impact and a 30-50% reduction in parking impact. Another board member voiced concerns over ‘mission creep’ and wanted to make sure that staff time was overwhelmingly spent on this advocacy, particularly given the amount of conflict that has ensued. Mindy reported that she had called and emailed Aaron yesterday in an attempt to, again, schedule a meeting. Councilor Piper offered to call Aaron if Aaron is non-responsive to the DBBA’s outreach. A goal was set to meet with Aaron before the next board meeting. If a meeting with LIOE is not scheduled by the next board meeting, the board with Councilor Pipers recommendations will discuss how to move forward to still ensure the January subcommittee meeting.

d. Communication back to stakeholders

Board discussed quickly the need to communicate back to the stakeholders who spend a lot of time coming to merchant meetings, council meetings, etc. on this issue.

3. New Downtown Bend Parking Manager – Welcome Tobi! 9:00 to 9:30

a. Tobi introduction, background, goals (Tobi)

Tobi introduced himself and have a bit of his background.

b. Review of the parking plan, how we got here (Mindy)

N/A

c. Feedback, requests, advice for Tobi (Board)

Board introduced themselves and shared what they felt was the biggest win or biggest concern in regards to parking in Downtown Bend.

4. Friends of DT

9:30 -9:40

Mindy reported that the Friends of Downtown Bend was still working on a fundraising plan and that they would meet with the DBBA on Dec 6th.

5. Public Comments

9:40 to 9:45

Mike Walker reported that the parking conversation would become 'sticky' in the future. He reported that within the COB there would be conflicting agendas

Mindy recommended that the Board read the parking plan so that they can support these conversations in the future. A board member requested that topic be put on a future agenda.

6. Adjourn – Next meeting will be on December 11th