

**DOWNTOWN PROVIDENCE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2006 2PM 40 FOUNTAIN STREET**

In attendance were Bob Gagliardi, Joe DiBattista, Chris Placco, John Macliver, Dan Baudouin, Francisco Ramirez, Frank Zammarelli and Frank LaTorre.

1. Equipment purchase

Frank LaTorre and Frank Zammarelli proposed that a new piece of equipment be purchased. The piece of equipment is a John Deere ATV, Buck Series. This is a one-passenger, four-wheel drive vehicle that has a snow plow and a flat bed for transport of equipment. It can be used all four seasons, to help with the plowing of islands and handicap cut-outs at intersections and to transport equipment, storage tanks etc. as well. After detailed conversation to determine if the was the correct size vehicle for the job, it was decided unanimously to recommend to the full Board of Directors that the ATV be purchased with \$4,500 coming from the DID Special Projects funding and \$3,000 from the last remaining monies from the Champlain Foundation to the Providence Foundation for DID equipment.

2. Flower plantings – DID and Groundworks Providence

Frank LaTorre said the DID is working with the new Executive Director of Groundworks Providence, Thomas Brendlar, to increase flower plantings for this spring/summer season. The DID has

removed all the green, wooden planters and is working on rehabbing them in a warehouse in South Providence. The plan right now is for Groundworks Providence to raise monies to buy soil and plants for these planters, adopt-a-spots and other new planting areas. The quantity they will plant is based on how much money they can raise for this purpose. They will be responsible for maintaining the plantings. The DID will be responsible for watering, if this goes beyond Groundworks Providence's capabilities.

3. Community Information Centers

The Operations Committee believes that community information centers are needed so people have a place to post fliers about upcoming events. Because there are still a number of unresolved issues (who would pay for them, where should they go, who will manage the kiosks), the Operations Committee decided to recommend to the full Board to refer this to the Marketing Committee for further research. Then the Marketing Committee will report back to the full Board on a comprehensive plan for a design competition, management of the kiosk and where the monies will come from for their construction.

4. Additional Street Lighting for the District

Frank LaTorre reports that, at the DID's urging, a group will be meeting to talk about the lack of streetlights in parts of the downtown and how those problems can be solved. The group will have a representative from National Grid, Johnson Control and the City of

Providence along with Frank LaTorre and Dan Baudouin. The first meeting is scheduled for 10AM March 8, 2006 at 40 Fountain St.

5. Report on other committee meetings

a. Bob Smith from RIDOT is now developing base plans for the six major stretches of sidewalk replacement that will occur in the downtown district. Will Gates, landscape architect, will work with Bob on behalf of the DID to get some distinctiveness to the concrete, to break the “monolithic” look. Doug Still the City’s Forestry Department Head will also work with Bob to make certain structural soil is put around any new tree pits created. Dan and Frank will be meeting with Bob soon to get an update and provide assistance to move things along to construction.

b. There was a meeting, at the DID’s urging, of the Police, the Public Works Department, the Mayors office, residents and the DID regarding enforcement of parking restrictions and dumpster ordinances in the downtown. This will be an ongoing committee working on keeping alleys clear of illegally parked cars and dumpsters that are misplaced or overflowing, breaking the law.

DID Operations Committee

February 14,

2006

-2-

c. The City has agreed to shovel two of the five overpass sidewalks that go from the District across Rt. 95. There was also talk that the

other three needs to be shoveled and that John Nickelson, Director of Public Works, will be looking into finding “the manpower to get that done as well.”

6. Trash Receptacles

The committee unanimously endorsed the new design for the next generation of trash receptacles that the DID will be purchasing from The Steelyard. They will be of the same weight and proportion as the receptacles purchased in December. They will have vertical banding instead of the present horizontal banding.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30PM.