

MINUTES

Somerville Redevelopment Authority

Special Meeting

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

(Virtual Meeting)

Software: GotoWebinar

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the Somerville Redevelopment Authority was conducted via remote participation.

Present from the Somerville Redevelopment Authority (SRA): Phil Ercolini (Chair), William Gage, Iwona Bonney, Patrick McCormick, Ben Ewen-Campen and Emily Hedeman. Also present were Eileen McGettigan as Special Counsel, Tom Galligani as Director of Economic Development, and Sunayana Thomas, Senior Economic Development Planner.

Phil Ercolini, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00PM. Open session commenced. A quorum was present. This meeting was audio recorded.

Discussion and Actions Taken

1. D2 Block – Temporary Uses: Customer Parking and Farmers Market

Vote: Authorize execution of Farmers Market License Agreement with Union Square Main Streets (USMS) for temporary use of a portion of D2 Block.

Mr. Galligani provided a visual aid to show the portion of the D2 parcel under discussion. The intent was to provide some relief for the Farmers Market, which is currently set up in the Union Square Plaza. They were looking for more space and the City suggested moving them to D2 so that outdoor seating for the restaurants could be expanded into the plaza. In anticipation, Ms. McGettigan drafted a license agreement. However, Union Square Main Streets decided that it was not a feasible location for the Farmers Market due to lack of ADA accessibility because of the uneven gravel ground covering. Instead, staff is requesting to temporarily use the space for overflow parking since the parking lot serving the plaza is being repurposed for small business support. The City will fence the site to properly delineate the parking area.

The Board questioned whether the City will be charging for the spaces, adequate patrolling, signs to avoid construction parking, detour, etc.

Staff assured the SRA that the City will enforce parking restrictions on the lot and will fence the space appropriately.

No vote was necessary.

2. Public Comment Period - None

3. Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair - None

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Gage and seconded by Iwona Bonney

Roll Call Vote:

Iwona Bonney, Yes

Ben Ewen-Campen, Yes

Bill Gage, Yes

Emily Hedeman, Yes

Patrick McCormick, Yes

Phil Ercolini, Yes