

**BID Committee**  
**September 18, 2019**

**Attending: Tara Anchor; chairwoman**  
**Jesse DeFosse; BID**  
**Justin Draper; BID**  
**Kevin Ricks; BID**  
**Adam Makowski; BID**  
**Kyler Royston; BID**  
**Dan Gavinski; BID**  
**Mark Sweet; BID**

**Mayor Ed Wojnicz**  
**Jenifer Dobbs; WDVCB**  
**Karen Terry; City Treasurer**  
**Chris Tollaksen; Public Works**  
**Maria Rosholt**

**Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Tara Anchor.**

**Motion to approve September 4 minutes made by Jesse DeFosse. Second by Adam Makowski. Approved.**

**RIVER WALK ANCHOR UPDATE:**

**Work is beginning on fabrication of the base and refurbishment of the anchor.**

**2020 BUDGET:**

**Updated numbers for the flowers downtown show an increase expense of close to \$6,000. Main reasons for the increase include \$3,000 for cost of the watering truck, \$1360 for floral displays at the summer entertainment stage and \$778 for winter florals.**

**The Visitors Bureau has proposed the possibility of hiring an individual to be supervised by Festivals Manager Jenifer Dobbs. This position would be responsible for working on existing Bureau events but would also be available to work on a contract basis for additional downtown events and possibly work on programming for the Elm Street plaza in 2021. There would be strict accounting on time spent on downtown events. Excluding the summer entertainment program, \$22,135 was already projected for festivals and the 4th of July celebration. Bureau estimate for the BID share of the expense of a contracted employee is \$30,000. City Treasurer Karen Terry reviewed alternatives for financing the increase in floral expenses and to pay for the BID share of the contract employee position. Alternatives include increasing the BID special assessment or use of undesignated surplus funds in the budget. After 2020, the financial commitment to assist in construction of the Elm Street Plaza will conclude which could make other funding available.**

**Dan Gavinski made a motion to approve the 2020 budget with the addition of \$32,836 in revenue to come from increasing the BID special assessment to cover the additional expenses. Second by Kevin Ricks. Approved unanimously.**

**GATLINBURG TRIP:**

**Kevin Ricks recommended the committee consider the recent history of downtown Gatlinburg in looking for ways to improve our downtown. Kevin has numerous relationships with city leaders who would be happy to meet with BID members. A new suspension bridge was built which may be of interest based on prior committee discussions about the River Walk. Committee interest was encouraging so Kevin will work on arrangements for a Gatlinburg visit.**

**ELM STREET PLAZA PROJECT:**

The City Council approved the developer's agreement with Concept Attractions for redevelopment of the Chalet and Bavarian Village as an expanded Wizard Quest attraction and themed area for shops, food and refreshments. Work will commence in early 2020. The agreement includes sale of the city parking lot next to the building to Concept Attractions and city development and construction of a public plaza on Elm Street next to the building. The plaza would be finished by the summer season of 2021. Kevin Ricks will be meeting soon with the Bureau's special Economic Development Committee looking at additional funding for the overall project.

**DOWNTOWN PRODUCT IMPROVEMENTS:**

An open discussion covered a variety of topics including enforcement of current Design Review Committee standards now in place, if there were areas not covered by regulations, restricting excess duplication of types of businesses now comprising the retail mix and general cleanliness downtown. Some of the areas covered in this discussion may appear on future agendas.

**AGENDA: OCTOBER 2 MEETING:** Agenda items for this meeting will be determined.

**Adam Makowski made a motion for adjournment. Second by Kevin Ricks. Approved.**