Chairman, Hal George, called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Hal George, John Dowd, Susan Lawrence, Alan Thompson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Daniel Butts, Joe Terranova, and Paul St. Pierre

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dori Stone, David Buchheit, Laura Neudorffer, Craig O’Neil

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Item A: Morse Blvd. Bricking:
David Buchheit, CRA Manager, presented the idea of bricking Morse Blvd from the train tracks to New York Ave. Susan Lawrence was concerned about the disruption in the area. Dori Stone, CRA Director, tied the conversation in to the CRA Strategic Plan to provide background and detail on how it pertains to the status of the Strategic Plan progress. Susan feels it would be a wonderful entry into downtown Park Ave. Board is supportive yet hesitant about the project. Alan Thompson referenced a kiosk he saw recently in Savannah at their museum very similar to what we are looking into. Mr. Thompson stated that the advertisements on the screen in between kiosk visitors was not offensive and was only displayed when the kiosk was idle. Mrs. Stone suggested bringing a member of the Public Works staff in to the next meeting to discuss a timeframe along with an estimated start date for the bricking project. Mr. Buchheit also mentioned the possibility of having a matching grant program for the kiosks throughout the City so if another area within the City wanted to install a kiosk they would have an incentive to keep the continuity with the style of kiosk used. More detail and discussion will be held at the next meeting.

Item B: Signs & Wayfinding:
The Board loves the idea of replacing the existing kiosks on Park Ave. They have been interested in bringing this to fruition for the last few years and are excited to hear more about the project along with details including who will be responsible for maintaining and updating the information, how much will maintenance costs run, etc. The Board would also like to see one of the new kiosks installed in the Hannibal Square area. Alan Thompson suggested the possibility of having advertising when the kiosk is not being accessed to help offset any costs of the maintenance.

Item C: Winter in the Park:
David Buchheit suggested increasing the budget for the Winter in the Park this year in order to purchase items that will allow the City to save on rental costs by investing in the items that have to be rented each year. One item is the sport deck and another is a restroom trailer. The restroom trailer expense would be shared with the Parks & Recreation Department. Hal George, Board Chairman, prefers looking into purchasing used sport deck and also suggested the Parks & Recreation Department pay a larger portion for the restroom trailer since Winter in the Park is once a year. Mrs. Stone reminded the Board that although it is an annual event it does last a significant amount of time, running about 7 weeks per year.

Item D: Meeting Schedule
Discussion was held regarding the meeting schedule preferences and need going forward. After discussion it was decided that the schedule will remain to be held on the 4th Thursday of the month with the Work Session being from 12:00 – 1:00 pm and the Public Meeting beginning at 1:00 pm and continuing until finished. Mrs. Stone is going to confirm if holding the Public Meetings during regular business hours is allowed under the CRA guidelines and get back to the Board at the next meeting.

Mrs. Stone also reminded the Board that there are two openings on the Board with the resignation of Max Remer and Paul St. Pierre. Susan Lawrence also informed staff that she will not be continuing with the CRA Board because she has met her two term limit. Mrs. Stone will take this information forward to the Mayor to assign new appointments.

Mrs. Stone also provided the present Board members with hard copies of the Board Member Evaluation to be completed and returned to City Hall by March 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

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Chairperson, Hal George

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CRA Coordinator/Board Liaison, Laura Neudorffer