



DOWNTOWN OAK PARK BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2025 - The Little Gem Cafe

Present: Frank Heitzman, Susie Goldschmidt, Mike Fox, Mike Carney, Cameron Davis, Tina Salerno, Michelle Vanderlaan, Jonathan Kaufman, Jonathan Burch

Staff: Shanon Williams, Amelia Dellos, Jeff Eng

The Downtown Oak Park Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by Board President Susie Goldschmidt at 1:05 pm in person.

Motion to Approve November 2024 Minutes:

Approved: Mike Carney

Seconded: Tina Salerno

All in favor

- Motion Carried –

Motion to Approve October 2024 Financial Statements:

Approved: Mike Fox

Seconded: Tina Salerno

All in favor

-Motion carried –

Village Updates - Cameron Davis

1. 2024 Village Business Recap
 - a. 105 new business licenses were issued in the Village
 - i. 24 % were in DTOP
 - ii. More businesses closed in DTOP than opened
 1. DTOP lost 30 businesses, but one business, Salon Suites, accounted for half of the closings, lost 16 businesses in that one location
 2. Hemingway District and DTOP lost more businesses in 2024 than they gained.
2. 2025 DTOP Business Updates

- a. Crepas Culichi received an occupancy permit to open a new event space
 - b. Condo/Mixed- Building 1034 Lake St now has power
 - c. Breakfast House estimated open - two months
 - d. Holiday Inn - 60 rooms has new windows
 - e. Kribi Coffee purchased Sugar Fixe Patisserie and will use it as a bakery and retail location - name TBD
 - f. Fitzgerald's Fine Stationary has new signage
 - i. 24 % were in DTOP
 - ii. More businesses closed in DTOP than opened
 1. DTOP lost 30 businesses, but one business, Salon Suites, accounted for half of the closings, lost 16 businesses in that one location
3. The Village is announcing a \$400K grant program to benefit the Hemingway District during its March -December Oak Park Ave Construction
 - a. The grant will be used for the following:
 - i. Exterior renovations
 - ii. Interior renovations
 - iii. Social Media campaigns
 - iv. Increase free parking in the Ave garage to 90 mins

Consent Reports

- a) Executive Director – Shanon Williams
- b) Marketing – Amelia Dellos

Motion to adjourn: Downtown Oak Park Board of Directors' Meeting at 1:30 pm by Susie Goldschmidt, Board President.

Approved: Mike Fox

Seconded: Mike C

All in favor

- Motion Carried –