



City of Southgate  
**Downtown Development Authority Informational Meeting**  
January 21, 2021

A Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority was held on January 21, 2021 through a virtual video call on Zoom.

**Present-** Brian Batko, Bruce Genthe, Wally Kleit, Joseph Kuspa, Angela Lancina, Ron Moran, Mohamed Aborabboh

**Absent-** Alex Leonard

**Also Present-** DDA Director Cassidy Tear, City Administrator Dustin Lent

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kuspa at 5:00 p.m.

**Reports:**

1. **Minutes** – October 22, 2020 Informational Meeting Minutes  
It was moved by Batko, supported by Kleit, to approve the special meeting minutes of October 22, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously

2. **DDA Director Introduction: Cassidy Tear**  
Director Tear's first day with the DDA was November 9th.
3. **2021 DDA Meeting Schedule**  
Each DDA Board Meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 5pm. We will try to resume in-person meetings in March.

**New Business:**

1. **Mayor's State of the City Address and Business Awards**  
Chairman Kuspa updated the board that the State of the City Address and Business Awards will be virtual this year and taken place on March 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be done as some sort of Q&A style with Southgate Rotary.

**Old Business:**

1. **Tree Lighting**

Tear updated the Board on the DDA's Christmas events. The tree lighting was shown LIVE on the city's Social Media pages for viewers and residents to watch from home. The Facebook video has reached over 6,500 views.

2. **Light Up the Park**

Tear updated the Board on the DDA's Christmas events. The First Annual Light Up the Park event was held at Market Center Park from December 11<sup>th</sup>-December 31<sup>st</sup>. The event was fully funded by sponsorship from the business community, providing a free, family-friendly Christmas experience for families. We estimate that anywhere from 25-50 people visited the park each night.

### **3. Noon Year's Eve**

Tear updated the Board on the DDA's most recent event, Noon Year's Eve. This was a virtual event that allowed families to sign up their children to receive a NYE goodie bag. These bags contained noise makers, confetti poppers, a New Year's Resolution Activity Sheet, Create and Color your own NYE Party Hat Sheet, and a Juice Box for toasting at Noon. There was then a video posted on New Year's Eve that counted down to noon. This was a free event and the video on Facebook reached over 2,600 views.

### **Adjournment:**

Moved by Batko, support by Kleit, that this meeting of the Downtown Development Authority be adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Mission Statement**

The Southgate Downtown Development Authority's mission is to strengthen the economic vitality of the District by creating an environment that promotes commerce, enhances aesthetics, explores mixed-use development and encourages stakeholder participation.

### **CT.**

Cassidy Tear  
Recording Secretary  
CT  
1/21/2021