

DOWNTOWN FRESNO PARTNERSHIP

Executive Committee

Tuesday, April 28, 2026
1:00PM – 2:00PM

Downtown Fresno Partnership
2020 Tulare St

MINUTES

Present in Person: Phil Kliewer, Tate Hill, Tony Sanders, Will Dyck

Present Virtually:

Absent: Nora Monaco

Staff: Elliott Balch, Lara Agulian, Esteban Herevia

Public and Guest: N/A

I. Call to Order/Establish Quorum

Kliewer

Call to order at 1:11PM

II. Agenda & Minutes

Kliewer

a. Approval of Today's Agenda (*Action*)

Kliewer motioned to approve, seconded by Hill, motion approved unanimously.

b. Approval of the April 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes (*Action*)

An amendment was suggested to the Closed Session section of the minutes stating that the CEO Evaluation was reviewed and approved by the committee. Those changes will be reflected in the final posted version.

Kliewer motioned to approve, seconded by Hill, motion approved unanimously.

c. Review April 8, 2026 Draft Board Minutes

We discussed the same note for the closed session section of these minutes, similar to the Executive Committee minutes.

III. Public Comment (Limit to 3 minutes each)

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No public was present to comment.

IV. CEO Update

Balch

State of Downtown was a success last Thursday. We made \$15K last year and so far are on track to make more than that this year with sponsorships. DFP is involved with many events coming up in the next week and a half including a bar crawl on May 1, a Cinco de Mayo folkloric concert by Teocalli on May 3, the Market on Kern season starting on May 6, and StreetHop starting on May 7. Balch will be in Chicago from this Thursday to Sunday.

DFP put out an RFP for CPA services as discussed at the last board meeting. The submissions are due by June 1 and recommendations will be brought to the board when ready.

DFP is waiting to hear back on a few grants we applied to. We will also be going after a bigger grant by USDA for our new farmer's market in 2027. Townsend is a legislative advocacy and grant writing firm. They reached out with a proposal on working with us to help us get grants.

There was discussion on the possible expanding of the PBID. This relates to the location of the new soccer stadium, once that is decided.

V. Financial Action Items – NONE

- a. No financial Report due to schedule change*

VI. Operational Action Items

Balch

- a. Authorize CEO to negotiate and execute a contract for approximately \$40k plus expenses with U3 Advisors as a consultant connected to work with The Kresge Foundation.*

The Kresge Foundation wants to renew their grant to DFP. They have suggested that their trusted partner, U3 Advisors, works with DFP to scope what the renewal grant will cover. The cost is \$40k plus expenses, but Kresge has already approved a grant for this amount to DFP to cover this work. They are open to us looking into

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different advisors, but staff recommends going with U3 Advisors. The direction given by the committee is to approve this.

Hill motioned to approve, seconded by Kliewer, motion approved unanimously.

- b. Authorize CEO to negotiate and execute a contract not to exceed \$15k with Townsend Public Affairs for grant proposal development services

Balch does not have a specific grant he wants Townsend to go after currently but would love an approval from the committee on record if one becomes available. He would want to use Townsend to go after bigger dollars and be an advocate for DFP. This work would cost between \$5k-\$15k as stated in their proposal so would not exceed \$15k. Costs are project based.

Kliewer motioned to approve, seconded by Sanders, motion approved unanimously.

VII. Personnel and Legal Action Items – NONE

VIII. Committee Open Discussion

a. DFP Committees

This committee discussed if there is need for other committees such as marketing or clean and safe. It was felt that more meetings with committees are not needed, but more one-time or Ad Hoc committees could be used on an as needed bases, such as for a brand refresh, but not marketing as a whole ongoing thing.

b. Open Discussion

No additional discussions were had.

V. Adjournment

Kliewer

This meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm with no objections.

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