

Downtown Development Commission

Meeting Minutes November 29th, 2023

A meeting of the Downtown Development Commission was held in the Conferences office at City Hall. Call to order at 5:30 pm on Wednesday November 29th, 2023.

Roll Call; Present: Bob Cyr, Steve Beaudette, William Emhiser , and Julian Schlaver. City Staff: Brad Favreau. Absent; Marrick Auger, Susan Swanton, Victoria Foley, and Patrick Mourmours. Guests; Steve Liautaud, Holly Culloton, Ann Thompson, and Leah Shaffer

Motion by William and seconded by Steve to accept the previous meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Nomination of officers: Nomination of officer's positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, was tabled and postpone until January.

Farmers Market: Brief update on the vacant lot at 64 Alfred Street by owner Steve Liautaud being used as a potential Farmers Market, food truck court. A portion of the lot is being planned for Ore Nell's to have a beer garden patio. A potential canopy, tent area, is being proposed for the center area of the lot for farmers and artisans market, with infrastructure for water, sewer, and power to four points on the lot for future bathroom facilities to be completed during the Alfred street construction phase. Discussed were ideas to paint the Mural on the wall colors to match Ore Nell's section of the building with Steve contacting building owner. No action was taken by DDC. The DDC will revisit site after the project work on Alfred Street is completed.

Gateway Signage: Discussed updating welcoming signage to the city. Julian shared some possible updated signage proposals. Discussed were colors, wording, verbiage to include historic, background schemes to include City hall. Signage is to replace the outdated signs in the specific locations in the city. No action taken. Julian will revise signage proposal for next meeting.

Zoning Changes: Brad shared the area on the city map affected and explained the reasons why areas in R2 residential went to MSRD2. Areas will comply with state law that will allow owners to expand and modify units to accommodate more housing.

Public Parking Signage: Brad is working with Jeff Demers to place public parking sign locators throughout the city to aid in finding available parking locations.

New Business:

Electric Car charging stations: Brad has been working on the global climate change initiative. Some Federal funding is available for small cities. To qualify for funding a plan is needed to establish parking areas throughout the city. Brad shared seven sites throughout the city as potential areas for EV's to be use as charging locations. The consensus of the DDC agreed to the proposed locations.

Motion to adjourn made by William, and seconded by Steve to adjourn.

Next meeting will be January 24th, 2024