

Downtown Development Commission

Meeting Minutes October 17th, 2022

A meeting of the Downtown Development Commission was held in the City Hall Chambers at 5:30 pm on Monday October 17th, 2022.

1. Call to order: Roll Call; Present: Anne Nadzo, Susan Swanton, Bob Cyr, and Via Zoom Patrick Mourmouras, Renee Messier, Camille White. Absent: William Emhiser, Ari Brandstein, and Victoria Foley

City Staff: Brad Favreau

2. We have two open positions on the commission. Nominated are Stephen Beaudette, and Julian Schlaver. To be brought before the City Council at Tuesday's meeting to confirm the appointed positions.

3. Approval of the August 2022 minutes. A motion made by Susan, and 2nd by Bob to accept the minutes as written. All voted in favor.

4. Budget report on the agenda. There is no budget. There was nothing to report.

5. Chairman Follow-ups & Updates: Anne Nadzo shared that she regretfully is resigning from the board as she will be moving out of town with hopes to return back to Biddeford someday. She was thanked by fellow board members for her service as Chair to the commission.

6. The City Council accepted and approved the Art Policy Ordinance on July 19th. Brad updated the Public Art Commission Ordinance to reflect verbiage similar to the Portland's Art Policy. A motion made by Anne and 2nd by Susan to accept the revised and update Public Art Commission Ordinance as written. All voted in favor.

7. Revision to Existing Ordinance. Brad shared the DDC Ordinance revisions of August 2022 with GAM edits and comments. The original DDC's charter was written back in 1975, and much of the original commission's roles and responsibilities have changed over the years, and some are now being done by City staff. The proposed updated rough draft is for the DDC to review prior to the next meeting. No action was taken. A suggestion was to use this revise ordinance as part of the agenda item at the upcoming workshop, as an opportunity to redefine DDC's strategic purpose in supporting the City Councils' initiatives. Future goals and plans could include inventorying downtown green space and accessing future needs and uses, such as dog parks, playgrounds, and community gardens.

8. Next meeting will be Monday November 21st at 5:30 pm. The consensus of the DDC was to combine the meeting and workshop in one event.

9. Susan made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Bob. All voted in favor.

Submitted by; Bob Cyr Secretary DDC

