

Downtown Development Commission

Meeting Minutes September 27th, 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 September 27th, 2023.

Roll Call; Present: Bob Cyr, Steve Beaudette, Patrick Mourmouras, Susan Swanton, and Julian Schlaver, William Emhiser, Marrick Auger, Victoria Foley. City Staff: Brad Favreau, Zoom guest Shelly Gibson. Absent; Camille White

Motion by William Emhiser and seconded by Bob Cyr to accept the previous meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Farmers Market: Brad shared his information from the meeting with Ellen Calloway to assist with starting a farmers market. It generated a lengthy discussion amongst members covering numerous topics from compensation for managing, proposing a new location venue at the corner of Jefferson and Alfred Streets, which was recently approved for two food truck vendors rather than using the City Hall parking lot. The number of vendors and type of commodities offered. The hours of operation and the length of season the market will run, with local produce being a targeted group. WIC Program being offered onsite. Establishing a board of directors along with reviewing past ordinance for setting up a farmers market on private property. Reviewing the lot site, and creating a site design and a vision for the type of market the DDC is envisioning.

No formal action was taken. Prior to the next meeting Julian was to meet with property owner and design landscaper to review location site to conceptualize a proposed site plan. Brad was to review present city ordinance in establishing a farmers market and it's governance by the DDC on private property verses city property, and the establishing of a board of directors if needed. Marrick was going to develop a process to do list in the development of type of vendors needed to establish a viable farmers market for marketing concepts at various times during the season.

New Business:

Water Street green space: The new green space created by the reconstruction of the intersection of Main and Water streets in front of Magnus on the water restaurant was discussed. The consensus was to approve the concept of planting trees and shrubs as defined and recommended by the hired Arborist. Motion was made by William and seconded by Susan. Approved unanimously.

Next DDC meeting scheduled for Wednesday October 25th at 5:30 pm City Hall

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

