Minutes | **DDC**
September 11 2017

Commissioners Present: Droggitis, Durkin, Dubois, Edwards, Eon, Foley, Nielson [QUORUM]

Commissioners Absent: Kelliher, Shlaver

City Representative: Favreau

I • **Motion to Accept Minutes for August:**
[Moved: Foley, Second: Droggitis, Vote: Unanimous]

II• **Chairperson's Remarks** (Durkin)

• **Budget Discussion**
FY17 Budget balance $3600: $50 for two signs for WIFI hotspots and ~$500 for last clean team. Remainder $3000 pending for tables in Laconia Plaza (design submitted and approved by public works, and planning, agreed to by Doug Sanford; waiting on City Manager/Council)

• **Façade Ordinance Violations**
Advertising violations: Durkin reported Pawn Shop on Main and Dirigo to city code enforcement for violation of advertising ordinance (flashing lights, display on MERC tower/city property)

• **WIFI**
First month complete with City Hall Hotspot, ~850 sessions (translates to roughly 400-500 unique users). Ribbon cutting for WIFI will be scheduled (Durkin and Foley)
Plan of action to secure other hotspot agreements: Favreau will follow up in meetings with identified and interested parties. Commission members have/will reach out to: Biddeford Savings (Favreau), 140/299 Main St (Favreau), 265 Main St (Edwards), Doug Sanford (Dubois), Hospital (Favreau/Eon), UNE (Droggitis), Jimmy Albert/Cowbell (Foley), Chamber of Commerce (Dubois)

III • **Reports and Other Business**

City Gateway discussion from Dowtown Task Force draft report and mapping: Commissioners will visit proposed sites and research other cities gateway markers to report back at next meeting. Also send comments on DTF report to Favreau.

Planter Survey being completed by HoB, Favreau and DDC HoB members (Foley, Droggitis) will see if DDC can/should play a role, at least get results for consideration

Façade Improvement Grants
Favreau: Three applicants were granted maximum allowed $15K, a fourth for $12K (with full matching funds from applicant) for façade and building improvements in downtown. Grantees are: 15K: Harkins/299 Main (new windows), Ebling/old record store (refacing store front), Seth/Alfred St (refacing building front); 12K: McClain/Twin City Café (siding). Seth/Alfred St is complete, others have one year to complete work. Request to replenish fund will occur in 2018.

Large Construction/Infrastructure Updates and Discussion
- Dubois volunteered to research and reinvigorate discussion on new highway Exit 36
- Favreau and Durkin will find research on moving train station to Biddeford
- Planning on Water St and Main St intersection revamp has begun
- Lincoln Mill project announced, Phase 1 to be completed by end of 2019

Downtown Improvement District
No updates known to DDC, Edwards will follow up with City Manager

IV • **Meeting Adjourned (7:36p)**
[Moved: Dubois, Second: Foley, Vote: Unanimous]