

Downtown Development Commission

Meeting Minutes April 15th, 2023

A meeting of the Downtown Development Commission was held in the Conferences office at City Hall at 5:30 pm on Monday April 15th, 2023.

1. Call to order: Roll Call; Present: Bob Cyr, Victoria Foley, Susan Swanton, William Emhiser, and Julian Schlaver. Absent; Ari Brandstein, Camille White, Steve Beaudette, and Patrick Mourmouras

City Staff: Brad Favreau

Old Business:

Attendance: Discussed DDC Membership attendance. Appointed commission members are required to attend meetings. If conflict of schedule arises they are to inform the chair to be excused. Three unexcused no show absences will result in termination from the DDC Commission.

Approval of Minutes: Victoria motion to approve minutes, seconded by Bill. All in favor, motion approved.

Ordinance Revisions: Discussed the recent DDC Ordinance that the Policy Committee approved making three minor edits, which will be going to the City Council for the First Reading on May 16th, and Second Reading on June 6, 2023. The DDC was approved for a \$1000.00 budget with a carryover of \$792.71 from last year.

Shevenell Park: Leah Schaffer HOB Architect presented a proposed new park design beautification project for the Shevenell Park. She is applying for a Fifty Thousand dollar grant, along requiring some city public works assistance, and in-kind donations from local Landscapers and volunteers. Also, Leah presented conceptual ideas for the vacant lot on the corner of Jefferson and Alfred Street. The idea was to have two Food Trucks vendor area, patio area with stringed lights structure with shade canvas, Public restrooms, power and water hook ups, a shed area with lawn area encased with a wattle-daub fence and potted trees, and an updated mural painting on the neighboring wall. Members discussed concerns, no action was taken.

Pearl Park: William updated the commission on the Pearl Park project. Fifty thousand dollars has been appropriated for engineering work in 2024, with an additional funding of 1.45 million from 2025-2028 in the area. The pedestrian bridge from Biddeford to Saco is estimated to cost approximately 4.5 million.

Submitted by; Bob Cyr Secretary DDC

Upcoming DDC meeting dates:

June 29th, 2023 5:30 pm in the Chambers

