

Downtown Development Commission

Meeting Minutes January 24th, 2024

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 January 24th, 2024.

Roll Call; Present: Bob Cyr, Steve Beaudette, Julian Schlaver, Patrick Mourmouras, and Liam LaFountain, City Staff: Brad Favreau. Absent; Marrick Auger. Motion by Steve and seconded by Julian to accept the previous meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Nomination of officers: Nomination of officer's positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. Julian Schlaver nominated Chair of the DDC, Patrick Mourmouras as Vice Chair, and Robert Cyr as Secretary. Motions were made and voted unanimously for them as officers for the coming year 2024.

EV electric Car charging stations: Brad update that two sites meet the criteria for expansion of three phase electric charging stations, that being Water Street and Clifford Park. The application process to the Department of Energy deadline is April 30th. Part of the project was finding areas under Justice 40 initiative to provide EV access for low and moderate income folks. Grant funding will allocate \$75,000.00 in assisting with this project.

Public Parking Signage: The parking signage on Lincoln Street is up with the assistance of Jeff Demers at DPW. In discussion it was brought up the Wayfinding project, now that the Pearl Street area is nearing completion and the Riverwalk area will begin the next phase. Tabled for more info at a future meeting.

Gateway Signage: Discussion continued on the gateway signage. Four key area signs were identified to update welcoming signage to the city. Discussed were colors, wording, verbiage is to include historic, background schemes to include City hall. Signage is to replace the outdated signs. No action taken. Julian will revise signage proposal for next meeting.

Farmers Market: The commission briefly discussed the farmers market. The left over \$1000.00 in the budget is to be used towards the development of future market development initiative. A motion was made by Liam and 2nd by Stephen all, in favor.

New Business:

Discussed the mission of the DDC, and the downtown committee purposes which share similar initiatives in the downtown area. Also, discussed the possibility of combining and uniting the groups into one. No action taken. Brad to provide feedback to the commission at the next meeting. The commission will focus on goal setting at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Stephen, and seconded by Liam to adjourn.

Next meeting will be February 29th, 2024

