

## **Downtown Development Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

*September 15, 2014*

*Present:* Brian Lintgen, Rick Bohannon, Dan Steil, Nate Sauer, Erin Trisko, Russ Kolthoff, Amy Brickweg, Lance Weber, Ann Heron, Ordean Peterson, Pete Weber, Birgita Clemming, Dan Kron

*Next meeting:* October 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 Cold Spring City Hall 4pm

---

#### **I. Announcements**

Dan Steil spoke at the Chamber of Commerce lunch on 9/11/14. He gave an overview of the committee, and provided a hand out with the goals and objectives. He let people know that this is their chance to have a say and get information as opposed to being left out of the loop or being upset after work is done, and that it is important for them to connect with the committee and its work now.

The Chamber is hosting a fundraising event at the Brewery this Friday from 4-8. This event "Autumn Toast" will raise money for chamber to help support various programs city-wide. This is a great event for us to help support as fundraising money could be used to help marketing efforts by this committee. You can help by contacting Lois at the chamber or Amy Brickweg and volunteering to help during the event, and by attending and encouraging others to as well. It will be a lovely evening to be involved in your community.

#### **II. Discussion**

The purpose of this meeting was to review and vote on various proposals by Geoff Martin so he can make any changes necessary before his final proposal to City Council and Planning Commission.

Agenda Item 1: should bike lanes be incorporated into all plans. Discussion included doing partial-area bike lanes, considerations for parking restrictions, and possible county restrictions. Group vote is YES, bike lanes to be included from the schools to the Sauk River Bridge south of Hwy 23.

Agenda Item 2: how should bike lanes and parking be configured near the brewery where the road is narrower. Discussion included: parking is valuable there, street lights and greenery are not as important there because it is further from downtown, buried power lines might be trickier in this area due to narrowness, bike lanes are important for continuing access to school and toward other areas. Group vote is keep both parking and bike lanes at possible expense of wider boulevards or more green space.

Agenda Item 3: Should buffers between parking lots be entirely on private property or partially on Right of Way (ROW). This mainly applies to the area on Red River Ave directly off of Hwy 23. Discussion included: county will most likely reclaim all ROW but any work done on private property will have to be done willingly by property owners. There could be pushback but this topic needs to be discussed with property owners starting now. Easement would be needed to use extra footage on private property. There is a possibility of also lining up entrances to property. This area is very important to the overall work being done, it creates an entrance and look to Cold Spring and the added greenery, wider sidewalks, nice boulevards, etc. will be key to creating a successful entrance to the city. Therefore, group vote is YES-at the very least use all 80 feet of ROW and hopefully extra footage from private properties.

Agenda Item 4: Should buffers between parking lots be entirely on private property or partially on ROW on Main Street. This mainly applies to the Country Store parking lot. Discussion: Main street is narrower by 14 feet than Red River Avenue. Country Store may be more willing than other owners to make such changes as they use parking lot for farmer's market and shared parking already. Group vote is YES-try first to include private property in buffer areas.

Agenda Item 5: Should Bump-Outs be incorporated on 1<sup>st</sup> North and South. Discussion included: bump-outs make snow plowing and winter maintenance very difficult and plows can damage bump-outs. Will businesses that have truck traffic through this area be affected by bump-outs decreasing accessibility for large trucks to these roads. Trucks will already be diverted during 1-2 years of construction so will already be used to using alternate routes. Bump-outs make for a nicer downtown feeling and safer pedestrian crossing, they help make line-of-sight easier at intersections. There was not a group consensus. Motion presented Erin to incorporate bump-outs on 1<sup>st</sup> Street South and Main Street (not on North 1<sup>st</sup> Street). Second by Lance. Vote Yea-7, Vote Nay-2.

Agenda Item 6: Where else should bump-outs be included, if at all. Rick motions bump-outs added to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South. Lance seconds, approved.

Agenda Item 7: If space allows, should we make angled parking on 1<sup>st</sup> Street South. Discussion includes major need for parking in that area as well as wide street being a convenient space to fit extra parking. Vote YES on West half of street, or as much as can be fitted there.

Agenda Item 8: angled parking anywhere else? Vote NO.

### **III: Follow-Up:**

Next meeting will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>. We will review Geoff's final proposal with changes made from our feedback at today's meeting. We will approve or recommend changes. There will then be a joint meeting with Planning Commission and City Council.

This committee should ensure plans for care and maintenance are included, with care and attention given to maintenance of landscaping, green space and plantings. Suggestions include putting a blurb in the paper looking for local garden groups, contact with Master Gardeners in the area, and speaking with other cities regarding their strategies.