

Downtown Development and Revitalization Advisory Committee (DDRAC)

Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Atrium at 3:30pm

Attendance:

Robin McPherson
Daniel Romanko
Bernie Slepko
Brianne Hawley
Chris Lowes
Mike Mazzolino
Harald Ensslen
Tisha Polocko – BIA

Regrets:

Representative from Brock University

Staff Liaison:

Judy Pihach, Manager of Planning Services

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1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**
Daniel Romanko called the meeting to order at 3:30pm
 2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
Bernie Slepko requested an addition regarding a letter of gratitude to former MP Rick Dykstra for his service.
 3. **Motion to approve the agenda**
Moved by: Bernie Slepko
Seconded by: Mike Mazzolino

“That the agenda for the meeting of October 20, 2015, be approved.”

CARRIED

4. **Presentations (invited guests)**
There were no presentations.

5. **Business**

Discussion of the DDRAC work plan for this term of Council (ending fall of 2018)

Excerpts from the City of St. Catharines Strategic Plan were provided by Dan Romanko. Dan identified Action Items of relevance to the mandate of the DDRAC. Members discussed potential work plan items. The following were discussed:

- Involvement in the Community Improvement Program including receiving an information session, and supporting budget allocation for the program.
- Partnership with the Town and Gown Committee
- Prioritizing the action items and goals of the Cultural Plan portion of the Strategic Plan.
- The Civic Square project, including connecting with the Budget Committee to discuss the project's priority.
- Urban tree planting.
- Possible "pedestrian weekends" in the downtown.
- Pop-up Patio project feedback, to be provided by Scott Richie at a later meeting.
- Determining metrics for assessing the health and well-being of downtown for businesses, residents and visitors.
- Bringing the GO Transit terminal downtown.
- Creative Master Plan update (provide copy with minutes)

Moved by: Bernie Slepko

"That Staff make a presentation on the Community Improvement Program to the DDRAC at a future meeting."

CARRIED

Moved by: Bernie Slepko

Seconded by: Harald Ensslen

"That the Civic Square Project be considered a priority, and that the DDRAC shall connect with the Budget Committee on this project."

CARRIED

RE Rick Dykstra, former MP

Gratitude for public service of Rick Dykstra was considered by the Committee and determined that individual members of the Committee were free to take their own initiative to thank him for his public service, but that it was beyond the mandate of the Committee otherwise.

7. **Date of next meeting**
Tuesday, November 10, 2015, at 3:30 pm.

8. **Motion to Adjourn**
Moved by: Harald Ensslen
Seconded by: Chris Lowes

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.