

Downtown Development and Revitalization Advisory Committee (DDRAC)

Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Atrium, City Hall at 3:30pm

Attendance:

Robin Mcpherson
Daniel Romanko
Bernie Slepko
Tisha Polocko
David Vivian
Councillor Mike Britton

Regrets:

Chris Lowes
Brianne Hawley
Mike Mazzolino
Harald Ensslen

Staff Liaison:

Judy Pihach, Manager of Planning Services
Jim Riddell, Director of Planning and Building Services
Scott Ritchie, Urban Design Planner

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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**
 - J. Pihach suggested that New Business item regarding the Places to Grow Implementation fund be moved to Presentations.
 - B. Slepko requested that the Committee discuss design and landscape standards for patios.
 3. **Motion to approve the agenda**
Moved by: R. Mcpherson.
"That the agenda for the meeting of June 28, 2016 be approved."

CARRIED
 4. **Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meetings**
Moved by: R. Macpherson
"That the minutes for the meeting of March 23, 2016, be approved."

5. Presentations (Invited Guests)

Samir Husika, informed the Committee that the City's Economic Development group will be applying for grant money through the Places to Grow Implementation Fund to undertake a study on the provision and value of public space in the Downtown. The study would also address the civic square.

6. Business arising from the minutes

J. Pihach discussed status on report of annual health and wellness metrics for Downtown. Metrics will tie-in with the Province's Places to Grow performance indicators. DDRAC should be reporting annually once tracked metrics are determined.

T. Polocko advised that the Fire Dept. has taken lead on bringing back working group with NRPS and AGCO to monitor licensed establishments.

7. New Business

1. Consideration of 2017 City Budget.

The DDRAC identified the following funding priorities, to be reported to the Budget Committee: the creation of a Downtown Coordinator staff position; and to maintain or enhance funding for the façade improvement grant program. Funding for civic square project to be discussed further pending outcome of grant application.

Motion: That the DDRAC supports the creation of a Downtown Coordinator staff position as identified in the report from PBS dated September 8, 2016.

Moved by: R. Macpherson.

CARRIED

Motion: That the DDRAC supports the inclusion of a minimum \$100,000 allocation to the façade improvement grant program.

Moved by: B. Slepko.

CARRIED

2. Places to Grow Implementation Fund application

Moved to Presentations.

3. Potential Public Realm Improvement Projects

D. Romanko spoke in favour of the DDRAC endorsing a "tactical urbanism" pilot project focused on the intersection of St. Paul and Carlisle with a focus on

testing reduced travel lanes and a four-way stop. Could be opportunity to address other sites and request Committee funding to initiate small interventions. D. Romanko to meet with City staff to discuss implementation of a trial.

Motion: That the DDRAC endorse a pilot project at the Carlisle Street and St. Paul Street intersection for improvements to pedestrian experience and direct that certain members consult further with Transportation and Environmental Services staff.

Moved by: D. Romanko

CARRIED

4. **Patio Design Standards**

B. Slepko raised concern with the design requirements for outdoor patios with respect to landscaping. Of particular concern was the new patio for Freshii. Staff advised that the patio is on private property so was not subject to the sidewalk patio design standards, however, landscaping is proposed but has not yet been installed. There may be an opportunity to better address landscaping for patios on private property through site plan control.

8. **Other Business**

T. Polocko advised that the BIA is in the process of developing a greening and beautification plan in consultation with City parks staff.

T. Polocko also advised that Brock University is hosting an event on September 26th regarding building vibrant public spaces and downtown revitalization.

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

October 29, 2016 (Rescheduled to November 30, 2016)

9. **Motion to Adjourn**

Moved by: D. Vivian

CARRIED