

Downers Grove Downtown Management Corporation

Board Meeting Notes

June 6, 2019

Present: Phil Stromberg, Paul Glover, Kathy Burns, Larry Boik, Bill Marshall, Mike Baker, Michael Philipp, Michael Cassa, Laura Crawford, Erin Venezia, Ann Hattan

Absent: Steve Frost, Maureen Grand, Jill Card, Nan Newlon

Guests: Gay Crossman, Marilyn Crossman, Louise Robson, Maureen Nelson, William Sheehan, Michael Caren, Steve Mulligan, Jack Marengo, Gerald Lau, Maxine Ekl

Chairman's Report: Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. A motion to approve the May 2, 2019, minutes was made, seconded and passed. Comprehensive parking study is under way. Parking surveys were sent out, interviews were completed and the open houses have concluded. We will have preliminary results of the study in July and the final results in August. The Village is hoping to provide monthly updates. We are looking for Board Members who would like to be a part of the nomination committee for the new Board Members. Larry, Laura and Paul volunteered to join the committee. Since putting in the camera by the dumpster, the area has been clean. The letter to the Mayor and Council is complete and will be signed by Phil and given to the Village tomorrow.

Downtown Management Report: According to the by-laws, the Annual Meeting should be on September 5th, but due to the Fine Arts Fest that same week we are requesting it be moved to either September 15 or September 19th. Erin will email Board Members to find out which date works best for them. The Wine Walk was a success. There were 325 attendees with only 20 no shows. Car Show is into the third week and we have been talking to participants about parking in designated areas before 4:00 p.m. Garbage enclosure has been going well. A few individuals have been caught and they have been notified. New businesses: 1010 Curtiss – Brave Studio and the ATI Fitness will be MAR Health & Performance. There is a ribbon cutting tonight at 5:15 at Studio I Do. There was a concern about the Paradise Café sign still on the building. Mike will check on it.

Deputy Village Manager Report: Thanks to Erin for getting the information on the parking study out. Friday is the deadline to submit applications for the open Council seat. They are hoping to have the new Council member announced by June 18th and ready to go the first meeting in July at the latest. They are working on developing funding for the SSA. Ready to review and discuss. Phil proposed a meeting with the executive Board.

Director of Public Works: The Forest lot north project has been postponed until the parking study is complete.

Village Commissioner: No report.

Economic Development Report: Michael attended the Wine Walk and had a great time. ICSS Recon show was held. The packets handed out included information on the downtown area. Restaurant business is growing and people are always looking for open restaurant space. Currently working on the strategic plan. Erin attended the Board meeting in May. June 25th is annual luncheon where we will have our Cornerstone Awards and presentation to Mayor Tully.

Chamber630 Report: Women in business meeting tomorrow. Young professionals are having an event at Top Golf. In August, sample Seven Bridges event and a coding boot camp. In September, we will have our Last Swing golf outing and Taste of 630. At the last Board meeting and Business off the Clock we presented two scholarships. The next Board meeting is a retreat. The proposal for a tax increase for hotels did not pass.

Aesthetics Committee Report: Several comments on how nice the downtown looks. The committee met and have decided to interview three landscape companies. They will interview the three companies tomorrow. After interviewing the three companies, we will provide recommendations and plans for improving the district.

Finance: The fiscal year has begun. Fine Arts Festival fees are coming in.

Governance Committee Report: No report.

Other Business: Public comment: There was a concern about traffic issues in town. Another concern was with the landscaping in town, particularly by Emmett's and Starbucks. The Village is working on the landscape issues in the downtown area. They are starting in the immediate downtown area first and work will extend throughout the SSA area. There was a question about the status of the Subway in town. Subway is closed and the lease is up in October. A resident attended the Wine Walk and wanted to thank all who helped and thanked the Village for doing the parking study. A resident said the crosswalks were not looking great. The Village is working on the crosswalks. A request was made to start with the crosswalks at Main and Curtiss. A concern was made about the homeless in the downtown area. The Village has provided resources for them and said if anyone sees a violation to please call police. A request was made for name cards at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 am.

The next Board Meeting will be August 1, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Hattan