

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD
Work Session
June 8, 2022
9AM

Attendance:

- Jerry Michael, Jacob Kipping, Jess Ackerson, Amy Catania, Laura Cunningham, CJ Hagmann, and present via Zoom Sue Smith Zukin
 - Also Attending: Village Staff: Cassandra Hopkins, Erik Stender; and Village Mayor Jimmy Williams
1. May 11, 2022 meeting summary approved by Jess Ackerson, seconded by Jacob Kipping.
 2. Introductions of DAB members to Village Mayor Jimmy Williams and Village Manager Erik Stender. Jerry Michael gave an overview of DAB's mission and current projects, i.e., Music on the Green, walk & talks, DRI project input, beautification, and just looking out for the overall wellbeing and 'curb-appeal' of Downtown Saranac Lake.
 3. WiFi Update: Jimmy Williams has been made aware of the lack of follow through on WiFi installation in Village parks, he is on it. Jerry Michael gave an overview of DAB's efforts to make people aware of where there is free, accessible WiFi. Riverside Park sign to be installed by Village Parks Manager Andy Testo this month. Erik Stender asked about WiFi at Mt. Pisgah.
 4. MOTG: Laura Cunningham stated that MOTG is all set with the lineup and sponsors. DAB discussed the need for coordination and cross-promotion of happenings across Downtown this summer. Jacob Kipping noted that the [Saranac Lake Insider](#) is the best available clearing house at the moment. Cassandra Hopkins to submit MOTG concerts to the Saranac Lake Insider.
 5. DRI Update: Kick-off meeting Thursday.
 6. Community Development Update: Cassandra Hopkins mentioned that the Arts and Culture Advisory Board currently has one vacancy and that letters of interest can be submitted to her by Sunday, June 12th. Erik Stender gave an update on the status of the Downtown Mural Makeover- they are finding solutions to painting directly on the wall if a laborer can't be found to install the MDO within the budgeted amount. DAB reviewed a downtown flyer for informing businesses on sandwich board placement to allow for ADA compliance.
 7. Village Board Update: Kelly Brunette had submitted materials relating to the food truck topic and to downtown happenings this summer prior to the start of the meeting. Erik Stender stated that there are a number upcoming proposals, although nothing is before the Board yet. He is filling in in the Code Enforcement office until Chris McClatchie starts. Jimmy Williams stated that two of the up-and-coming proposals are incorporating adult-use cannabis dispensaries, production facilities, and on-site consumption into the Village zoning and Development Code, as well as a short-term rental regulation proposal.
 8. Discussion: Food Trucks: DAB to use examples of other similar communities' policies and procedures, Lake Placid, Plattsburgh, and Ithaca, to draft some potential rules and regulations surrounding where, when and how food truck vendors can set up in Saranac Lake. Sidewalk Cafes will be discussed again once the food truck regulation suggestions are passed on to the Village Board given that they are a more pressing need.
 9. Other: Jerry Michael stated that the Depot area is now fully under the ownership of the DEC and that there needs to be efforts to coordinate with the DEC on that as a hub/entrance to Saranac Lake. Amy Catania did make contact with Robert Daley at the DEC regarding the

upkeep of the Depot building, she plans to submit a letter (HSL). Jess Ackerson noted a potential need for a basic guide to opening up a business in Saranac Lake and that the SLACC might be contributing to something like this. Jimmy Williams stated that there are also efforts underway to start a Help Desk Task Force for the Village to help answer general questions, but especially how to get started on development. Laura Cunningham stated that there is a need for more volunteers to step in and take over First Night Saranac Lake (the NYE event that has most recently been orchestrated by Sue Patterson). There are no updates on DOT projects, such as new traffic lights to be installed on Church St.