

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD
Work Session
July 13, 2022
9AM

Attendance:

- Sue Smith Zukin, Jacob Kipping, Kathy Steinbrueck, and Amy Catania.
Attending via Zoom: Jerry Michael and Laura Cunningham.
Also Attending: Village Staff: Cassandra Hopkins; Ex Officio Member: Kelly Brunette.
- 1. June 8, 2022 meeting summary approved by Sue Smith Zukin, seconded by Kathy Steinbrueck.
- 2. MOTG: Laura Cunningham stated that MOTG has been going well with good attendance at the initial concert. The second concert is tonight featuring the local band, Midnight Stargazers.
- 3. WiFi Update: SLICC to install two additional spots, one at Berkeley Green and another at William Morris Park. The Lake Flower Boat Launch WiFi base may have to be moved because of DEC property. Jerry Michael will reach back out to the Village Manager, Erik Stender, about following up with SLICC's few remaining installation questions.
- 4. Village Board Update: Kelly Brunette stated that while there is plenty going on at the Village Board level, the primary focus for DAB is the implementation of the DRI. DAB had a discussion and brainstorm on the Saranac Lake 6er Hiking Challenge and on future Rail Trail connectivity to the Downtown corridor.
- 5. DRI Update: Landscaping work has begun at William Morris Park, Kelly Brunette stated the need for on-site informational signage, which may come from the State. On Monday, July 18, construction will start on the public bathrooms which will inhibit parking in the Pontiac Lot. Demolition for the Urban Forestry portion of the DRI will begin the following Monday, the 25th, at the intersection of Broadway and Main St. Contractors know to keep the site clean during non-work hours due to downtown-centered events. Later this summer, landscaping work will begin in Ward Plumadore Park. Woodruff St. (both East and West) are still in design phase. The Riverwalk extension is currently on hold due to working through easements. Kathy and Roger Steinbrueck will work with Andy Testo to move downtown planters when necessary surrounding construction.
- 6. Community Development Update: The Arts and Culture Advisory Board is moving forward with the 'Adopt-A-Bench Program' for local artists. Kirk Sullivan, Chair of ACAB, is the point of contact. The Saranac Lofts, a 70-unit apartment complex for artists and mixed-income renters with commercial space to hold The Carry, received a boost in funding and will be on the August 2nd Village of Saranac Lake Development Board meeting agenda (with updated plans soon to be placed on the Planning page on the website).
- 7. Sidewalk Cafés will be a subject for DAB to revisit over the course of the next several months.
- 8. Other: Jerry Michael acknowledged contributions to the draft food truck regulations by Sue Smith Zukin and Village Trustee Matt Scollin. Kelly Brunette stated that regulations are moving forward, although an exact timeline is not clear, the draft is with the Village's attorney right now. Sue Smith Zukin stated that she is at the ready to help move this along if needed. Amy Catania gave an update that the New York State Historic Preservation is working on finishing up

the expansion of the Berkeley Green historic district. She explained that this allows non-profits inhabiting those designated buildings to be eligible for grant funding, and tax credits for homeowners that live on the premises. CJ Hagmann messaged an update that three properties along Broadway, including the former Dew Drop Inn, are under contract. Kelly Brunette to draft a memo to Franklin County with a set of priorities on repainting and other repair needs for Downtown bridges over the Saranac River. Jacob Kipping gave a brief recap on the return of the Willard Hanmer Guideboat Race, with promising numbers including 92 day-of volunteers. Kelly Brunette stated that a portion of the collected Franklin County Occupancy tax is to be directed to the creation of a series of videos that focus on resident relocation and attraction.