

**DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Work Session**  
**September 14, 2022**  
**9AM**

Attendance:

- Sue Smith Zukin, Jacob Kipping, Amy Catania, Jerry Michael, and CJ Hagmann. Attending via Zoom: Laura Cunningham.  
Also Attending: Village Staff: Cassandra Hopkins; Ex Officio Member: Kelly Brunette.
1. Approval of August 10, 2022 meeting summary by Jacob Kipping and Sue Smith Zukin.
  2. WiFi Update: No update on installation at other parks, there is still WiFi at Riverside Park and the Ice Palace Site. William Morris Park is anticipated to get WiFi next.
  3. MOTG: Jerry Michael and Laura Cunningham made a note to remove this as an agenda item until January given that the 2022 season has come to a close. Laura Cunningham shared key takeaways from the season and improvements that will be made headed into MOTG 2023. She stated that the committee is currently seeking additional volunteer help, specifically those that can do at-concert set-up and tear-down, especially if the season is to expand back into an eight-week series.
  4. Village Board Update: Kelly Brunette shared the most significant update as of late is the discussion and ongoing planning of the Village's new emergency services building. This has the potential to house fire, rescue and the PD. Jerry Michael asked about conceptual plans/documents for the new building. Amy Catania asked about taking on historic preservation consultant/architect. Kelly Brunette stated the village issued a RFQ for feasibility studies for the emergency services building and in total 8 bids have been received. She will continue to keep DAB updated on the progress on that long-term project.
  5. DRI Update: Cassandra Hopkins stated that onsite work will continue at the site of the new public restrooms, at William Morris Park, and as soon as National Grid moves utilities, at Ward Plumadore Park. Kelly Brunette added that they can now revisit the initial idea to underground utilities along Woodruff Street (West) due to the lack of forward progress on the planned Riverwalk extension.
  6. Community Development Update: Downtown Mural Makeover- Artists continue to work on completion of the new mural. CJ Hagmann stated that the new owners of 13 Broadway have been working on the retail space and apartments with expected business opening in that space this spring. Laura Cunningham asked about potentially adding an agenda item or discussion item for the allowance of future cannabis usage in Saranac Lake, with the likelihood that it will affect downtown, i.e., attracting visitors to downtown, establishment of new downtown businesses. Jerry Michael and Sue Smith Zukin both agreed that DAB should keep an eye out to help understand what is to come with the NYS Cannabis Law.
  7. Other: Halloween is a go for this year- street to close for trick-or-treaters and event to be posted on Village website/social media. Jacob Kipping stated that he recently made public comments at a Village Board meeting regarding bike and ped priorities and tying downtown to the soon-to-be completed Rail Trail and the importance of following through on those plans. Amy Catania stated Historic Saranac Lake's current frustrations with the lack of communication by DOT with work being done at the Church and Main Street intersection. First Fridays

business-centered events that are being coordinated by the Saranac Lake Area Chamber of Commerce- first one seemed to be a success, next one is scheduled for Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.