

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD

Work Session
November 8, 2023
8:30AM

Attendance:

- Jerry Michael, Jacob Kipping, Jake Widrick, Kt Stiles, Kathy Steinbrueck, and Mark Coleman; Via Zoom: Sue Smith Zukin
Also Attending: Kelly Brunette, Ex-Officio Member; Cassandra Hopkins, Village Staff

1. Approval of October 11th meeting minutes by Mark Coleman, seconded by Kathy Steinbrueck.
2. Village Board Update
Kelly Brunette stated that top of mind topics are the Public Safety Facility and the subsequent exploration of where housing all, or separate, emergency services is most appropriate. She said this is ongoing and the Village anticipates holding another public hearing soon. DAB discussed the pros and cons with our new public restroom closure and the lack of signage or announcement about this seasonal closure. Cassandra Hopkins stated that the restrooms are slated to be open for Winter Carnival and that the hours, when open, were 8am to 8pm.
3. Light Up Downtown
Cassandra Hopkins shared the promotional graphic and asked DAB members to mark their calendars for the December 1st evening event. There isn't any other DAB involvement at this time, other than to help to spread the word.
4. Broadway Bridge Update
Jerry Michael stated that, at last, the street-facing portion of the bridge is repainted. The Village DPW painted last week.
5. Community Development Update
New Community Development Director, Katrina Glynn, will be starting in the Village office on November 20th. The other Advisory Boards have continued meeting regularly and relied on Chairs and Ex-Officio members in lieu of a Community Development Director being present. Cassandra Hopkins stated that the Development Board's review of STR's, with seven in total now approved, will continue at each first Tuesday monthly meeting.
6. Rail Trail Update?, WiFi Update?, DRI Update? Ongoing List?
Jerry Michael stated that the DEC put out a call for submissions for potential proposals for the use of the Depot building as part of the ongoing Rail Trail project and he did reach out to the DEC point of contact, but at this point the deadline has closed. He stated this is something that DAB will continue to keep an eye on as the Depot area is in the Downtown. Jerry Michael reported on the status of the WiFi in Village Parks.
Cassandra Hopkins to remind Village Manager of SLICC contract and getting back to

reminding them of outstanding parks.

Jacob Kipping suggested doing a walk with a Village staff from parks to discuss the placement of additional informative signage about free, available WiFi.

Jerry Michael shared the ongoing list that he and Cassandra Hopkins put together as a way to keep track of what this group has discussed and deemed of note in the downtown area, 'DAB's Notes on Outstanding To-Do's Downtown.'

7. Strategic Investment Plan

Jerry Michael stated that this is a goal of this group to review, make suggested edits, and update this planning document. The first section that DAB members looked at were the cover page through pg. 13. Sue Smith Zakin to write a revised version of the intro and executive summary, which will be reviewed by the group at or before the next meeting.

8. Other

DAB members inquired if any entity, SLACC or other, was organizing a storefront decorating contest.

DAB discussed the need for improvement of the 'downtown district' sign or the existing Welcome Center sign.

DAB discussed the budget ramifications for the pending Harrietstown Town budget approval without MOTG funding.