

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD

Work Session
February 8, 2023
8:30AM

Attendance:

- Jacob Kipping, Jerry Michael, KT Stiles, Kathy Steinbrueck, Mark Coleman, Jake Widrick, and Amy Catania
Via Zoom: CJ Hagmann and Sue Smith Zukin
Also Attending: Cassandra Hopkins, Village Staff

1. Approval of January 11th meeting minutes by Jake Widrick, seconded by Mark Coleman.
2. NYS Sexual Harassment Training Requirement to be completed by Friday, February 17th. DAB members may submit proof of training done for another entity if it falls within the past year and fits the same type of training, along with a signed acknowledgment to either Cassandra Hopkins or the Village Clerk, Amanda Hopf, clerk@saranaclakeny.gov
3. WiFi Update- SLICC has installed WiFi in William Morris Park (Adirondack Carousel). The Village needs to verify that it is working and check the network name before signage, matching the existing sign in Riverside Park, is ordered. Next up for installation will be Berkeley Green with completion of the new public restrooms. Jake Widrick offered the library as a location to help, if needed, for Berkeley Green's WiFi installation.
4. Village Board Update- At the February 7th Development Board meeting, a minor subdivision was approved for the Citizen's Advocates lot at 33 Petrova Ave. where the Village will potentially purchase a lot for a Public Safety Facility (Fire Dept., Police Dept., and SL Rescue). The next step will be review of the recommendation by the Development Board for the Public Safety Facility as an allowed use in the J2 zoning district by the Village Board. Stephen Ferruzza's 11 Woodruff Street project did not get approved due to an incomplete site plan and he will go before the Development Board again on the 21st. Stacey Allott submitted a site plan for development of a parcel on Lake Flower Ave. with bike amenities as a potential attraction for Rail Trail users. Short term rental regulations for the Village are still being workshopped at Village Board meetings and work sessions, the next of which will be a discussion at the February 13th meeting. Jerry Michael asked about the status of the draft food truck law that members of DAB worked on and submitted to the Village Board last year.
5. DRI Update- A Saranac Lake DRI Project Update from January 2023 for both private and public projects was shared with DAB.
6. Community Development Update- The Village Board will consider adoption of an amendment to the Development Code to allow for cannabis uses in the Village, potentially at their next meeting. The final draft of the law is on the Village website. A total of 36 public art proposals were submitted for the public art installation in either Prescott or Riverfront Park. The Village submitted a North Elba LEAF grant application for an additional \$15,000 toward a second public art installation. Kathy Steinbrueck and KT Stiles are on the committee that is scoring proposals and selecting their top 10 to discuss in early March

with a final recommendation to be made to the Village Board by April 6th . An invite was extended to DAB members to attend the Chamber's coffee hour about Saranac Lake First Fridays to take place at the library next Thursday at 8:00am.

7. Review Annual Report- Kelly Brunette had submitted a comment in an email that she would like to take an in-depth look at the annual report as a group and use it as a jumping off point to determine how we can make DAB most effective in 2023. Other suggestions and edits were made to the online working document. DAB members will continue to review and add to the Google Drive document. Further review of the annual report will take place at the March meeting.
8. Rail Trail Update- The meeting that was scheduled to take place with ARTA and DEC representatives on January 18th to discuss Rail Trail opportunities was postponed. Jerry Michael stated that a new date and time has not been set yet.
9. Saranac Lake History- Winter Carnival History/Traditions- fancy dress skating in the early 1900s, the SL library's book fair, themed dinner at the Hotel Saranac 'Bacchanalia Feast', fur coat fashion, Snowflake dance revival?, early breakfast on parade day, building the ice palace and moving ice blocks along River Street, Pendragon Theatre's Winter Carnival shows, and creating new traditions.
10. Other- Letter to Franklin County regarding repainting the Broadway bridge to be submitted to Lindy Ellis. Jacob Kipping stated that the manager of Left Bank Café offered to support this request of the county. Updates on businesses involved in recent structure fire on Broadway from CJ Hagmann: CED is looking at plaza space on Lake Flower Ave., ADK Solar has picked out a place, Aubuchon Hardware will need to completely rebuild (est. to take about 2 years) and is looking for an interim space.