



Visioning & Civic Relations Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 7th @ 10:15am

Chair: Aaron Wedra

Co-Chair: Dawn Coder

Location: Met via Zoom

1. Welcome / Attendance
 - a. Board: Aaron Wedra, Dawn Coder
 - a. Acknowledge that Aaron Wedra is stepping up as Chair of Visioning & Civic Relations as Jen Cala has stepped down due to her having a career change and leaving Sole Desire
 - b. Staff: Brett Maresca
 - c. Other Attendees: Sumie Yee
2. Review of Minutes & Agenda
 - a. August meeting minutes (approved)
 - i. All in favor
 - b. September meeting agenda (approved)
 - i. All in favor
3. Public Comment
 - a. No public comment
4. Programs & Projects
 - a. G Street Activation Project
 - i. There is a plan for an October 4th charrette; the City hired a design architect firm named Psomas, and there will be presentations and perhaps some visual design renditions at the charette out on G Street
 1. Sumie stated that "it has been hard on this area of G Street because of delivery trucks logistics".
 2. Dawn noted bollards missing from North side of G Street project area
 - a. We should keep track and see if they are reinstalled
 3. Sumie asked "has the City approved the project at Ace building?"
 - a. No solid info from our group; likely not approved or solidified at this time.
 - i. Sumie stated "such a project could affect renovations"
 4. Dawn stated "trying to get developers to pay for some improvements could be smart; maybe they would show good will or even pay for digital kiosks."

- b. CPTED Grants (Safer Davis 2023)
 - i. There was a lot of money being requested by businesses this year, and we had less money available than in the previous year.
 - ii. Brett and the judging panel will put DDBA's proposal for allocating money forward to the City. Brett will confirm whether or not the City will be allocating more money toward the grant fund.
 - iii. 18 businesses applied out of the 22 that got free CPTED assessments; however, some businesses that are chosen typically do not follow up with upgrades, and do not get paid the grant award (in which case it will be reallocated to other applicants).
 - iv. Should have updates at October meeting as to businesses that were chosen to be awarded.
- c. Welcome to Davis Sign
 - i. Odd Fellows have all medallions in their possession
 - 1. Sept. 18th there will be a reveal by the City and Odd Fellows
 - a. Photo opportunity is only for Odd Fellows and City
 - b. Jenny Tan (City staff) will put out a press release on multiple channels
 - 2. Odd Fellows collect \$150/organization per year for making small upgrades and maintenance. In the future we may see improved lighting or design.
- d. Downtown Street Team Launch Party Recap
 - i. Brett and Aaron attended the Launch.
 - ii. Kevin Wan was a speaker at the event.
 - iii. Other speakers were: Josh Chapman, leaders of Streets Team, and team members of the streets team program.
 - iv. One member's speech was particularly moving.
 - v. There is great KCRA coverage online.
 - vi. Since the Launch, Cam Cullen has resigned from Streets Team due to a personal move out of the area. He was great to work with. Angelo will take over as project manager for Davis.
 - vii. Aaron stated "It's never too early to think about how we're going to fund Streets Team after the City and Yolo County go through their ARP funds in the first two years."
 - viii. It's about \$400,000 a year and we'll need a new revenue stream.
- 5. Downtown Beautification Fund
 - a. The City has not given us their decision on our beautification funds
 - i. City has rolled over our funds to their current fiscal year so we didn't lose the \$10,000
 - ii. Because this is happening alongside of the G Street Activation Project things are complicated.
 - iii. Aaron stated "We've always been diligent having plans for beautification funds. We were ready on time with our proposals."

- b. Brett has been in contact with City staff regarding static map kiosks as well, and with the City Manager's office as well as their Arts and Culture Dept., there is an agreement that we are to think about the static map kiosks in addition to the digital kiosk proposed on G Street.
 - c. Aaron: "There have been two examples at least recently when ideas come from outside of our committee on how to spend the \$10,000. Aaron feels that the \$10,000 really helps defines our Visioning & Civic Relations Committee and that if others have ideas, the conversation should come to our committee."
 - i. For instance, there was a suggestion made by a Council member that perhaps the money be considered for power washing. Our committee does not feel that is an appropriate use of this funding as that is an ongoing maintenance issue, which has not the purpose of the fund.
6. Parking & Transportation
- a. Ryan Chapman got back to Brett responding to our question about backing into parking spaces.
 - i. Chapman says there is not an ordinance that says you cannot back into spaces; however there is an ordinance that says you cannot cross the center line of the street while backing into a space.
 - 1. He asked if we can let him know what locations are a concern.
 - a. The purpose is to see if signs could be put up or if an ordinance can be changed in the future
 - b. Dawn thinks parking enforcement would be the best fit to answer questions about locations that this is a potential problem
 - c. Aaron and Dawn are interested in traversing the downtown to take some notes
 - d. Brett will contact Parking Enforcement.
 - b. 90 Minute Parking Spaces on H Street
 - i. By request of the committee, Brett emailed Ryan Chapman "is there a specific reason why H Street Parking is 90 minutes while other spaces around it are 2 hours? Should it be considered to be changed to a longer time period? Maybe even 3 hours to incentivize people to stay downtown longer?"
 - 1. Ryan said he does not know the reasoning behind the current structure, but if the DDBA wants to see the times increased he can work with us and the BTSS commission. Eventually this would have to go through Council if there was to be a change.
 - a. Brett thinks we should bring this to a larger body for feedback because there could be a difference of opinion. Getting feedback would be the safest approach for our organization.
 - b. Aaron asks if we should study the Downtown Specific Plan ourselves first to see if there are plans for parking.

- i. Brett mentions one thing from the plan is that new housing projects would not necessarily be required to add parking. This is a concern.
 - c. Dawn thinks doing X permits could fit into a plan that would open spaces for customers.
 - d. Dawn considers doing a survey to get feedback from our members.
 - i. Brett mentions the issues and options that were brought up several years ago with paid parking and meters. We should consider these things.
 - 1. The committee agreed that meters are not aesthetically pleasing and take up limited sidewalk space
 - ii. Brett reminds that we're talking about FREE parking, which is a privilege
 - 1. Dawn says "money will be spent downtown" to justify FREE parking
 - e. Aaron thinks a lot of attention from the community would have to be paid to this topic for anything to happen. Thinks we should consider if the big picture is there before stirring things up with our own membership.

c. SPIN

- i. A concern from Brett would be scooters being used on sidewalks
- ii. Also concerned, from previous experiences, that bikes and scooters could be left in inappropriate places
 - 1. Aaron says there is a new penalty system possible with these bikes. Users could be charged or lose biking privileges.
- iii. Dawn wonders if UCD will train students to ride appropriately.
 - 1. Brett has seen the City do tabling on multiple occasions to help educate the public regarding bike safety.
 - 2. Because UCD is heavily involved with bringing SPIN to Davis it would be a hope that SPIN electric bike and scooter etiquette would be worked into their orientation.

7. Other City of Davis Correspondence

- a. Downtown Tree Lights & Pruning
 - i. Lights have been taken down
 - ii. Trees are scheduled for pruning
 - iii. Some lights are being put on in new experimental ways as to not harm the trees
- b. PD & Business Community Meeting on September 27th
 - i. Hosted by PD, Chamber and DDBA
 - 1. Public is invited
- c. August 28th City / DDBA / Visit Yolo 2x2x2 Meeting Notes
 - i. Brett has been discussing the important topics during our meeting

- ii. Minutes should be available later through the City's website
 - iii. There should be a video recorded and available on the City's website
 - d. 3rd Street Construction
 - i. Supposed to be completed on time for the return of students/start of school
 - ii. Looks like a lot of improvements are being made on the street
 - e. Upcoming Central Park Construction Update
 - i. Parts of Central Park are planned, in the future, to be out of commission for work done on Natalie Corona Splash Pad
 - 1. Partly due to uncertainty of timing, the International Festival was canceled.
 - 2. Now we know the construction won't happen immediately
 - 3. The Phoenix Coalition will move their next Pride Festival to Civic Park.
 - 4. The Chamber recently held their Family Fun Fest at Civic Park. Aaron notes that this is a beautiful and convenient place and hopes events aren't pulled away from the downtown in the future.
 - f. Vertical Mixed Use Guidelines
 - i. Aaron wants to keep in mind that it would be important to consider requiring that ground floors in downtown remain available for businesses.
- 8. Misc. comments
 - a. Dawn wants us to be aware that the Phoenix Coalition will try to host an event at the G Street Plaza area in the future (separate from Pride).
 - b. Brett met with Cory Day, current Chamber president, and we might be able to work together more with promotions. There was interest in promoting their events outside of the downtown, but that would require great consideration and justification.
- 9. New Business
 - a. No new business
- 10. Old Business
 - a. No old business
- 11. Adjourn
 - a. Meeting adjourned
 - b. Next Meeting: Friday, October 6th at 10:30am