

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY DOWNTOWN BOARD
& ST. ALBANS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013
5:30 PM
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL
100 NORTH MAIN STREET

APPROVED APRIL 16, 2013

Board Members Present: Elizabeth Gamache (Chair), Jeff Bean, Mike Blouin, Katy Collin, Tim Hawkins, Sandy Mayotte, Laz Scangas, Jeff Young, Dominic Cloud (non-voting).

Board Members Absent: Sharon Holcomb, John Holzscheiter, Mike McCarthy, Jim Walsh.

Staff Present: Chip Sawyer, Marty Manahan

Public Present: Jim Cameron, Jimmy Matas.

1. Call to Order

Chair Elizabeth Gamache called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

2. Downtown Program Update

Program Update was distributed in meeting packet. No questions or discussion.

3. Update on financial status of St. Albans for the Future

Treasurer Sandy Mayotte was not present to give a report. Chip Sawyer commented that there were no major changes to finances.

4. Project Updates

a. Streetscape Project

Chip Sawyer explained that the Streetscape Project was set to resume on March 25 and gave a timeline for the next few weeks of work. Chip also mentioned that the project had won a special award from the State and architectural associations for its design.

Jeff Bean asked if the granite curb was too slick, and Sawyer said he would check on that.

Marty Manahan asked if railings were being installed to help people up the steps between Congress and Bank. Sawyer replied that the current City position was to complete the Streetscape project as it had been designed (without railings) and consider the feasibility of any desired retro-fits afterward.

b. Taylor Park Fountain

Chip Sawyer gave a brief update on the Taylor Park Fountain Restoration Project.

Concerns were expressed about the current \$500,000 conceptual estimate for the proposed repairs.

Liz Gamache asked about next steps. Discussion ensued about the role of the Downtown Board and St. Albans for the Future in designing, fundraising and implementing the restoration.

Marty Manahan suggested appointing a fountain committee to bring a proposal back to the City Council.

Jeff Young suggested that the Design Committee have oversight and that the fundraising be facilitated by the nonprofit St. Albans for the Future.

Discussion ensued.

Motion by Laz Scangas that the Downtown Board encourage the St. Albans City Council to create a committee for the Taylor Park Fountain Restoration Project and that said committee should include nominations from the Downtown Board as well as public at large. Motion seconded by Sandy Mayotte and approved with all in favor except for Sandy Mayotte and Jeff Young voting “Nay.”

5. Committee Updates
 - a. Design – Meeting scheduled for March 26.
 - b. Economic Restructuring – Reported that one area of current focus is to create a concerted effort to shift Downtown business hours later in the day.
 - c. Organization – No report.
 - d. Promotion – Update on the distribution of the Event Survey and some ideas on how the 2013 Downtown concert series might come together.

6. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Jeff Young to approve the minutes of the 02/19/13 meeting as presented. Seconded by Mike Blouin and approved with all in favor.

7. Other Business

Jeff Young gave a brief update on improvements planned for Taylor Park in 2013.

Liz Gamache asked Marty Manahan to go into more detail on Business Development activities underway.

8. Public Comment

Tim Hawkins asked attendee Jimmy Matas (Chow! Bella / Twiggs) on his thoughts on the changes to the covered pedestrian canopy between Lake and Kingman Streets. Matas replied that he saw the change as a trade-off and had no objection.

9. Adjourn

Motion by Jeff Young to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Seconded by Jeff Bean and approved unanimously.