

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY DOWNTOWN BOARD
& ST. ALBANS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013
5:30 PM
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL
100 NORTH MAIN STREET

APPROVED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

Board Members Present: Mike McCarthy (Vice Chair), Jeff Bean, Katy Collin, Sharon Holcomb, John Holzscheiter (left at 6:45pm), Laz Scangas (arrived at 6:35pm), Jeff Young.

Board Members Absent: Elizabeth Gamache (Chair), Mike Blouin, Tim Hawkins, Sandy Mayotte, Jim Walsh, Dominic Cloud (non-voting).

Staff Present: Chip Sawyer, Martin Manahan

Public Present: Armand Messier

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Mike McCarthy began the meeting without a quorum at at 5:35 PM.

2. Downtown Program update

This item was postponed to Project Updates.

Mike McCarthy asked that Armand Messier discuss information on the potential for electric vehicle charging stations in Downtown and their installation during infrastructure projects. Discussion ensued on various options. Chip Sawyer reported that he would soon be meeting with a representative of Driver Electric Vermont on this issue.

3. SAFF Financial Update

Tabled.

4. ADA issues on Streetscape Project

General discussion in favor of adopting ADA assistance for businesses as a future initiative.

5. Project Updates

- a. Streetscape Project – Chip Sawyer gave the latest update on the progress of the project, and Marty Manahan updated the Board on Streetscape Celebration plans for 9/5/13.
- b. Core Lot Development – Update from Chip Sawyer and Marty Manahan on status of permits and outreach activities for 9/10/13 TIF bond vote.
- c. Façade Improvement Program – Update from Marty Manahan on façade grants.

- d. Taylor Park Fountain Restoration – Board expresses unease on lack of progress in fundraising for the Fountain. Jeff Young suggests creating a nonprofit organization for Taylor Park.
- e. Maple Festival relations – Chip Sawyer reports that City is seeking to assist the Festival with new location options for the Festival rides.

6. Approval of Minutes – D&V

This item moved up in agenda with arrival of Laz Scangas at 6:34 PM, thus creating a quorum.

Motion by Jeff Young to approve the minutes of May 21, 2013 and June 18, 2013 as presented. Seconded by Sharon Holcomb and approved unanimously.

7. Discuss upcoming request to apply Historical Museum Walking Tour stencils
Chip Sawyer reported that the Historical Museum is seeking to refresh sidewalk stencils for location along its History Tour and to apply them to the new Streetscape. The Board expressed favor for the walking tour and support for the stencils, provided that they are well maintained and consistently oriented in relationship to buildings and sidewalks.

8. Adjourn

John Holzscheiter leaves at 6:45 PM, removing the quorum and effectively adjourning the official portion of the meeting.

9. Committee Updates

- f. Design – No report. Changing regular meeting times.
- g. Economic Restructuring – Meeting postponed to September. Agenda includes initiative for later store hours and interest in bringing Leanne Tingay from the VT Downtown Program here to speak.
- h. Organization – No Report
- i. Promotion – This Committee requested that the Board delegate or initiate an effort to explore the need and feasibility of and develop plans for public restrooms Downtown. Staff was asked to research past restroom efforts in the City and find the most recent information on other downtown bathrooms in VT.

10. Other Business

Jeff Bean reported that he had heard a lot of positive talk about St. Albans around the State. He also noted that other Downtown streets could use more maintenance and improvement and that he was concerned about the level of activity of the outdoor dining at Twiggs Restaurant. Other Board members expressed support for Twiggs outdoor dining.

11. Public Comment

None.