

Manchester-By-The-Sea

Downtown Improvement Project Committee

MEETING NOTES

Day & Date: February 15, 2022

Time: 8:30 am

Location: Virtual

Meeting was called to order at 8:46 am

In attendance: Steve Carhart, Marlene Dolan, Linda Crosby, Kurt Svetaka, Chris Olney, Gar Morse. Also in attendance were Nate Desrosiers and Erika Brown

1. Minutes from 1/18/2022 Meeting were approved
2. Organizational issues
 - Steve reminded the team to kindly complete the Town attestation that the Town Clerk sent
3. DPW Update (Nate Derosiers)
 - All projects moving forward and on track.
4. Town Planning Update (Rapid Recovery Grants, LCD status, etc.) (Sue Brown)
 - Steve provided the update for this section as Sue Brown was out of town. Sue is focused on the recovery grants; Steve and Sue spent time clarifying the public restroom work she will be involved in vs. the DIP's work in public restrooms: Sue's work is focused on long term and a permanent structure; DIP's focus will be on temporary and immediate needs for the 2022 Spring/Summer season. The work will be complimentary. Parking Update from Sue included communicating that Mass Planning will be conducting a study on parking this summer.
5. DIP Engagement with Downtown Business (Outdoor dining, public rest room, employee parking, relationship to Rapid Recovery etc.) (Gar Morse, Linda Crosby, Carley Cook)
 - Parking: Linda and Carley have created a parking questionnaire to be distributed to downtown business owners.
 - Restrooms: Gar reported that Town Hall Restrooms will be open during all business hours, including Friday (when Town Hall is closed). These restrooms will be available for the public to use. Gar has been granted an OK by Greg Federspiel to offer money to business owners in the area of Crosby's, who have a restroom that could be available for public usage. Greg's desire is to apply the money that would have been spent on a portable restroom (\$1,000/week) to compensate an owner(s).
 - Outdoor Dining: There does not seem to be better alternatives for providing outdoor dining adjacent to the restaurants that is different than what has been done to date. There was a discussion on the feasibility of providing picnic tables at Reed Park in order for people to come with their own food and picnic out of doors. It is not clear what the liquor restrictions are for the park (if any). The small greenspace outside of the convenience store will not be a good solution to outdoor dining for a variety of reasons. The Hersey Family owns that property.
6. Planning for DIP Phase 2, conceptual study status (Steve Carhart, Gordon Brewster, Kurt Svetaka)

- VHB contract has not yet been executed. Steve will speak with Greg to get this contract moved along

7. New Business-None

8. Date for next meeting-March 15, 2022

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:37 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Carhart, Chair

Marlene Dolan