

IOWA CITY DOWNTOWN DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2017

Voting Members Present: Ritu Jain, Michelle Galvin, Kent Jehle, Naftaly Stramer, George Etre, Jason Deppe, Joni Schrup, David Kieft, Susan Craig, Nick Lindsley, Angela Winnike, Linda Schreiber

Non-Voting Members Present: Kim Casko, Lisa Barnes, Mazahir Salih

Staff Present: Nancy Bird, Betsy Potter, Mary Besler

Voting Members Absent With Notice: Mark Ginsberg, Bill Nusser, Katie Roche, Crissy Canganelli

1) Call to Order

The meeting began at 8:30 in Meeting Room B/C of the Iowa City Public Library. A quorum of 12 of 17 voting members was present. Nancy Bird welcomed new board member Jason Deppe who is taking the place of John Burchert in the Liquor License seat.

2) Approval of November Minutes

Kent Jehle moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by David Kieft. *The motion passed 12-0.*

3) Discussion on the City's Vision for Downtown with Mayor Jim Throgmorton and Council Member John Thomas

Mayor Throgmorton opened the discussion with a recap of progress since the passage of the Strategic Plan that includes diversifying city staff, addressing affordable housing, and the support of a tremendous amount of construction. He also stressed the challenges ahead in both the state and federal government as a result of the election.

The discussion involved the supply issues in keeping up with Downtown

living and business inquiries. John Thomas discussed the supply of parking and his concern that eliminating parking requirements for Downtown developers would cause spill out into bordering neighborhoods. He suggested evaluating on street parking and looking at a parking benefit district with funds staying in the neighborhood that would supply the parking. Mayor Throgmorton's concern with eliminating minimum parking requirements would be that it would favor students instead of long term residents. He also expressed concern that historical buildings could be torn down to build new if the requirements were removed. He said he could see support for development from the city on parking if historical buildings were protected. Mayor Throgmorton said the survey on historical properties in the Downtown has not been completed.

The discussion wrapped up with ways the City of Iowa City and the ICDD can work together in the future including public infrastructure developments such as the Downtown streetscape project and alley improvements. Changing on street parking on Burlington St during nonpeak hours was also brought up.

4) Finance Committee

Kent Jehle reviewed the November and December financials. Kent Jehle moved to approve the report. The motion was seconded by Susan Craig. *The motion passed 12-0.*

5) Staff and Committee Highlights

Betsy Potter reported on the holiday campaign – all went smoothly and expenses were slightly less than anticipated.

Nancy Bird reported that the Building Better Bridges Institute was an important and impactful workshop. She also reported that Republic is the waste hauler company chosen for the Downtown and they would be visiting with every business in the near future to establish a daily pickup. The mobile food vendor pilot program was one more reading on the 2/7/17. Comment will be expected from ICDD members. The metrics of the Shop Genius Marketing Campaign were discussed.

6) Ex-Officio Reports

David Kieft reported that the awnings on the Jefferson Building will be removed soon and involves asbestos. 2/25 is the date patients will move into the new UIHC Children's Hospital.

Lisa Barnes reported that Summer of the Arts is interviewing new interns and the lineup for the free movies series has been determined.

Kim Casco reported that the Chamber of Commerce sent a letter to the school board in support of the bond. President Harreld will be the keynote speaker at the 2/16 banquet.

Mazahir Salih from the Center for Workforce Justice reported that the Unity Potluck will continue every three months at the Rec Center with the next one on 4/22.

7) Adjournment

The next board meeting will be 2/23. Ritu Jain moved to adjourn the meeting. Joni Schrup seconded the motion. *The motion passed 12-0.*