

12-18-18

DNN Board of Directors Minutes

Present: George Dusenbury, Betty Bondeau, Jim Diez, Tom Frangos, Pete Pieffer, Buddy Harrell, Wendell York, Kathie Gannon.

George called meeting to Order at 6:30. Minutes from August were Approved. **Kathie noted she needed a copy emailed to her for the Records. Also, the October Minutes need to be emailed to all and Action taken to Approve those at our next meeting.**

Public Safety – Pete Pieffer – Pedestrian Safety is and will continue to be the main focus for next year. They have 1 member on the Active Living Board. They have completed an Inventory of Lights /Buttons to identify which ones work – or not. What is the follow up on this Activity?? **Regular committee meeting date to be set.**

Public spaces – Betty Blondeau - Committees focus on a downtown greenspace has consistently been disregarded by City officials and membership on the once most active committee has dwindled. All agree it still needs to be a Priority for 2019 but will need to look at downtown greenspace in a different way and rebuild the committee. Betty recommended Lisa Schreiber as her co-chair and the board agreed. **Regular committee meeting date to be set.**

- Will work on activities, like exercise stations, to use the Commerce/Trinity property that the City said will use for a park until the School requires it for their purposes.
- Will work with the Environmental Sustainability Board and Save Decatur Trees to update the tree Ordinance as it relates to downtown trees. Recommendations for downtown trees will need to be reviewed and then provide a vote of support. An example would be how to protect and replace Downtown's over-story canopy in addition to the streetscape trees.

Communications – Jim Diez and Wendell York – New website is up so ALL need to check it out and let Jim know of any issues. All committees need to give Jim their meeting dates to be posted. Committees should be meeting 5 times /year.

Board needs to work on a new Survey re: downtown priorities, similar to the original one done 2 years ago. **Each committee should do a bullet point or two on what accomplished, as part of an introduction to the survey. Send to George who will use this as part of a Highlights of 2018 at the Jan. meeting.**

Planning – Buddy Harrell – Committee met in Nov.

- Will start preparing for the 2020 Decatur Plan to try and get a Section on downtown with a vision and specific principals to guide development for

areas of concern. Will meet with new city Manager, with input from Board so as to coordinate our communication with her.

- Continue to support the Westponce group and their work with City on a presentation related to a build-out scenario.
- Work on some specific code changes re: parking, need for useable open space in downtown, not counting balconies.
- A written definition of grandfathering and others.

Treasurer – Tom Frangos – Same amount in bank; Need to brainstorm on an annual membership get together; Will join the DBA.

January meeting Agenda Discussion – Program, Elections and By-Laws changes:

Program – Save Decatur Trees and its Relevance to Downtown – Betty will arrange.

Elections – The Board, acting as the Nominating Committee, solicited the agreement of all current Officers to run for at least one more year and are to be listed as the nominee. The membership should be notified that they can Nominate from the floor at the Jan. meeting. We seem to have an opening for Senior Committee as Lila has not attended the last few meetings and has not responded to email. George is to call her.

By-Laws Changes – Full text of the Amendment changes shall be submitted in writing in a Notice of the vote to be taken at a Regular meeting. Proposed changes:

Section 1. – Membership Qualifications to add a new category (4) a Decatur resident affiliated with the downtown area and interests.

Article IV – Officers and Duties – to change the name of Codes and Ordinances Chair and Committee Duties to Public Safety. A rewrite of the duties is needed.

Also a discussion is needed on the office of President–elect vs. a Past–President as of Jan 2020.

Secretary NOTE: Given work needed on By-Laws Amendments it is suggested that we discuss these at the Jan. general meeting and do written changes with Notice for March meeting.

Submitted by Kathie Gannon, Secretary.

