



AD HOC DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, February 2, 2023

- **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER: 9:05 AM**
- **ROLL CALL:**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Eric Davidson, Bruno Freschi, Glen Pentland, Greg McHenry, Gurdeep Bains, Mia Richardson, Scott Meaker and Susan Sturgill.

Kevin Owens was excused.

STAFF: Stacie Pratschner, Community Development Services Director; Alex Wenger, Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator.

Committee members briefly shared their experiences the last two weeks during the Connection before Content section of the agenda.

The Committee granted their consent to approve the minutes from January 19, 2023.

There was discussion about staff providing backup consent cards for future meetings, and there was further discussion about potentially having on-going meetings past the approved calendar scope.

The Committee agreed to modify the agenda and allow public comment.

- Ms. Karen Trudel provided comments about downtown sidewalk repairs and side sewer connection issues.
- Ms. Cristina Winkler provided comments about the concept of a new Peace Arch Business District and the Snack Shack at Peace Arch State Park.

- **UNFISHISHED BUSINESS.**

The Committee worked together in small groups and then reported back to the full Committee on the take home exercise activity. Staff summarized the discussion topics and listed opportunities to address barriers to development downtown.

- **NEW BUSINESS.**

The Committee discussed a vision for downtown, including reviewing the existing paragraph in the City's Comprehensive Plan which currently serves as a succinct vision for downtown. Ideas were shared and discussed about drafting a new vision statement specifically for downtown. The Committee agreed the most logical place to start for reviewing policies and development standards for downtown is a vision statement. There were also comments about conducting a SWAT analysis to help lead the vision discussion.

Staff worked with the Committee to outline the next steps which included consolidated the themes identified by the Committee into the four primary scope of work categories, reviewing Comprehensive Plan policies, goals and action items, and working to craft a new vision statement for the Committee's consideration.

The next meeting is February 16, 2023.

- **Adjournment 10:36 AM.**