

**Downtown Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2024**

Present: Steve Rubin, Christine Jeffries, Bill Novack, Mike Hudson, Tom Castagnoli, Derek McDaniel, Magna Bansal, Mikel Mayes

Via Zoom: Joe Costello, Kaylin Risvold, Brien Nagle, Doug Krieger, Councilman Patrick Kelly.

Staff & Guest: Mike Panas, Shannon Kunicki.

The minutes for the February 5, 2024 meeting was submitted. A motion was made by Christine Jeffries, seconded by Tom Castagnoli, unanimously approved.

Washington St Bridge: Bill Novack gave an update on the bridge; they are moving along expected to pour concrete on Tuesday. Once this is done the traffic will move to the east side and work will begin on the west side with expected completion done by the end of the year.

Washington Streetscape: Construction has started, and they will currently be doing a lot of the work at night. Eventually moving the work to daytime and nighttime down the road. Slow process right now but there will be faster progress down the road. The DNA is working on putting up banners at B&N to let patrons know what to expect when it is finished. They will also be putting up signs to let people know that the shops are open during construction as well to help the merchants. NCTV will also be doing some videos with Bill and Katie as the construction progresses.

Wayfinding Signs: Bill Novack updated the committee on the wayfinding sign project for downtown. They are currently in the consultants' hands.

Century Walk: Discussions continue with Century Walk and the City looking at the future. Doug Krieger stated that they are focusing on 2024, the last year of the contract on maintenance. Wednesday, March 6 they will be holding a reception to unveil postcards and the new book that was put together.

Safety & Comfort: The additional downtown beat officers are still in training and will start in April.

Plan the Way Forward: Steve started the discussion on the topic of continuing to keep downtown Naperville moving forward.

One of the suggestions was to have a Downtown workshop tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Would like to have more of a participation rather than presentation.

Targeted outcomes:

- Vision for 10-20 years out
- Emerging trends
- Policies- renew, strengthen, and create new policies.
- Build a public private community program, change the format of DAC and DNA
- How does the city help going after certain key tenants to add to the downtown.

Invite representatives that impact or are impacted by the downtown to be included in the workshop.

*Merchants

*Retail brokers

*Property owners in downtown

*Police

*College

*DNA

Ask a series of questions to get all their perspectives.

1. What makes Naperville better than anywhere else? What is the draw and differences.
2. Is it better today than it was five years ago? what direction are we going getting better or worse?
3. Trends?
4. What should we be doing today to improve tomorrow and today to improve us 10-20 years from now?

Steve will put together a draft for the workshop.

Katie will reach out to Dave Miller for space at Indigo for workshop on a potential date of May 14 in the morning.

Solidify the plan for workshop at the April 8, 2024, meeting and send out invites.

Next DAC meeting scheduled for Monday April 8th, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 4.38pm