

Downtown Improvement Committee

September 8, 2023 Minutes

In Attendance: In Attendance: Marylou Blaisdell, Tim Sennott, Rich Lannan, Edward Hayes, Liz Hannum

Absent: Michael Buckley, Philip Scotsas

Also in attendance: Amy DeRoche, Carolyn Walley, Alderman Tom Lopez

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 a.m.

August minutes approved unanimously

Barbara Costa from Nashua PD guest and presented overview of community policing in the downtown area.

- Discussed how PD and social services agencies are working together with unhoused population.
- Temple street encampment will be displaced when railroad begins work
- No unusual police activity in downtown, there is a steady presence of patrols downtown. Barbara stressed to contact PD if businesses seeing any issues.
- Barbara will ask for a walking officer at the Sunday farmer's market.
- A citizen academy will begin a 9 week program on September 26th.

Alderman Lopez updated committee on Nashua Soup Kitchen undergoing renovation and breakfast will be served at St. Patrick gym from 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 am.

Marylou updated the committee on Phillip's work with the parks and rec and DPW on the planters on Main street. The planters are in complete disarray and need plantings that are conducive to an urban environment. Phillip, working with the city has received a quote (attached) from Morin's landscaping to re-do all the planters. Discussion:

- Marylou suggested allocating up to 40,000 for this project to cover any unforeseen issues.
- Edward suggested we make sure we do it correctly and if any irrigation issues arise we need to insure we have dollars set aside.
- Liz stated that we will probably need to allocate seasonally extra funding of approximately \$10,000 for parks and recreation to ensure watering, weeding is done on a consistent basis.
- Suggested we create a list of maintenance tasks for DPW and ask what staffing would be required.

- Due to the time of year it is important to approve dollars for plantings. Motion made by Edward to allocate up to \$50,000 for plantings and any maintenance. Unanimously approved.

Holiday lighting – Lights Up will do a walk around downtown to determine any additional lighting needs the week of September 11th.

Carolyn Walley GAD stated stroll is set for the 25th of November. It will start at 4:00 p. m. this year with an end time of 9:00 p.m. Discussion.

- Event at Nashua Center for the Arts that night – has parking been addressed?
- Amy asked if performers have been contacted – not at this time.
- Stroll will start at city hall and go north on Main Street
- Stroll meetings will be scheduled.

Updates from Liz

- September window design in progress for downtown
- Main Street repaving has started and will continue all month.
- RR will be fixing tracks on Main Street and will close a portion of Main while this is being handled.
- Working on rebranding and will host a marketing effort meeting on October 11th from 9-12 at city hall.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 a.m.