



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Downtown Columbia Leadership Council

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

4:00 PM

Regular

Conference Room 1B

City Hall

701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 4:00 pm.

Present: 8 - Nick Peckham, Mark Wahrenbrock, Scott Wilson, Tootie Burns, Cindy Neagle, Andrew Hutchinson, Tom Mendenhall and Tyree Byndom

Excused: 3 - Heiddi Davis, Cliff Jarvis and Fred Parry

Unexcused: 1 - John Clark

Non-Voting: 2 - Stacey Button and Tim Teddy

II. INTRODUCTIONS

All guests in attendance introduced themselves. It was noted that Bernie Andrews was attending as a representative of non-voting member Stacey Button. Staff noted that they are in the process of introducing an ordinance change to amend the DLC legislation allowing the Directors of Community Development and Economic Development (Ex-officio DLC members) to designate a representative in their place.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Mendenhall made a motion to approve the agenda for the August 28 meeting. Mr. Peckham seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of July 24, 2019 DLC Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [DRAFT Minutes DLC Meeting July 24, 2019](#)

Mr. Mendenhall made a motion to approve the July DLC Minutes. Ms. Burns seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary

After a brief discussion a slate of officers was proposed to include Scott Wilson as Chair, Nick Peckham as Vice-Chair and Tootie Burns as Secretary.

Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the proposed slate of officers. Ms. Neagle seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1) Gateway Plaza/Flat Branch Park Extension parking compromise plan -
Deb Sheals, Downtown CID

Attachments: [Flat Branch 3 Compromise](#)

Deb Sheals, Downtown CID and COMO200 group stated that they have been working on this for some time, but there is an update on the parking. There is a stormwater inlet by the parking area, which must have a clear pathway to the creek. The previous plaza design would have eliminated that path and there were additional parking concerns there as well. A solution has been reached on the issue which will restore the creek bed. Mr. Stevenson will provide the City a conservation easement and a walkway bridge will be added to the parking lot. Additionally, the City will provide Mr. Stevenson a permanent ingress/egress easement along the west side of the parking area allowing Mr. Stevenson parking and access for the stormwater runoff to the creek. Ms. Sheals feels that this is a workable plan and she hopes the DLC will support it. The Downtown CID and COMO Task Force have approved it. The Columbia sculpture has been scaled out and will be designed to fit in the space as originally envisioned. This plan will go back to City Council for approval after it is signed off by the Downtown CID, COMO 200 and DLC per Council request. Ms. Sheals stated that she is uncertain if the island will remain on Broadway since traffic increases may require that lane remain as is. She is hopeful that the intersection improvements for 4th Street will be included in a future phase. Mr. Wilson stated that DLC approval will allow this to move forward to City Council and ultimately move on to raising funds for the project. Mr. Wilson feels that this may be the best option to proceed with as it seems to at least be agreeable to all parties involved. Ms. Burns agreed that while this plan is not ideal, it is the best option to move forward. The group briefly discussed the uses for the park including performances and regular daily use.

Mr. Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Gateway Plaza/Flat Branch Park Extension Plan as presented with the compromises. Mr. Hutchinson seconded. The motion passed with 6 affirmative votes, one opposed and one abstention.

2) Discussion of Downtown Parking Garages - *Leah Christian, City of Columbia Transit and Parking Manager*

Attachments: [Parking Garage Presentation](#)

Leah Christian, City of Columbia Parking and Transit Manager, provided an update on the pay machines and gate arm system changes being implemented in the downtown parking garages. Ms. Christian reviewed the proposed operational features with the implementation of the gate arms which included information on credit card and mobile pay options, cash/coin and change options, an hourly rate structure change, lost ticket fee change, and the removal of parking meters from the 8th & Cherry and Short Street Garages. She noted that they intend to propose to Council, the first hour of a parking garage be free in order to allow for more quick trip needs. After that, a flat rate of \$1 per two hours (up to \$5) will be charged. She also noted that they are proposing a lost ticket fee of \$15, which is a reduction of that fee from \$50. This is supported by the Parking Advisory Commission and Downtown CID. Ms. Christian reviewed the proposed phase-in of the gate arm implementation with the first garages to go live at the Plaza and 10th & Cherry garages. These changes will allow for better occupancy and management of the spaces and will improve customer service. Mr. Mendenhall stated that he would like to see a map of potential future parking sites being considered. Ms. Christian continued and stated that with the new system in place, there will be better data on space usage and Walker Consultants are recommending we sell a much higher number of parking permits. She reviewed the space availability in the garages noting that there are approximately 4,500 spaces downtown between the on-street and garage spaces. The consultants have

also recommended hiring a third-party to manage the utility. Ms. Christian stated that next steps are to amend the City Code to make it unlawful to sell a permit at a profit to another user. The ordinance change is scheduled for a vote by the Council on September 16th. (Mr. Mendenhall left at approximately 5:00 pm)

3) Continued discussion of survey of downtown

Attachments: [2019 Stakeholder Survey - Downtown CID April-May 2019](#)
[Summary of Downtown CID 2019 Stakeholder Online Survey](#)
[2018 City of Columbia Citizen Survey Results](#)

Ms. Burns felt that the CID survey is very comprehensive and she does not feel the need to duplicate that effort, but could perhaps focus on key issues such as parking or trash. Ms. Neagle added that the consultant report on parking is very comprehensive. The group opted to discuss this more in depth at the next meeting. Mr. Hutchinson added that the Downtown CID survey targeted a different constituency and did not focus on collecting a lot of input from residents. Ms. Burns would like to know more about the data group of who responded. Mr. Wahrenbrock suggested a different survey that would be more encompassing of a larger group. Ms. Burns added that may be costly and there is no funding for a survey. Mr. Wilson suggested reviewing the CID survey and coming back next month prepared to discuss what items a DLC survey should include. He recommended each member consider the top three things to focus on, beyond what is already captured in the CID survey.

VII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mr. Wahrenbrock stated that the group should review the establishing legislation at a future meeting, in particular the membership requirements, since attendance has impacted the groups ability to meet and vote.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Ms. Cole reminded the group that the next meeting will take place in Conference Room 1C on Wednesday, September 25th.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wahrenbrock made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Burns seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:27 pm.