

Minutes from Downtown 2020 Committee Meeting September 27, 2012
Room # 201 at 8:30 AM

In Attendance: Lou Gagliano (chair), Robert Jacobs, Ken Bernhard and Craig Rebecca Schiavone

Absent: Gerry Kagan, Dan Kail, and Valerie Smith-Malin

Summary of Minutes

1. Minutes from the previous meetings of August 14 and August 21 were approved without any change.
2. Chair referenced release of plans for Bedford Square project. Group comments were that it would be a positive mixed-use development and add to downtown revitalization.
3. Chair reviewed Not for Profit organizing process. State effort completed awaiting filing results from IRS to confirm Not for Profit status.
4. Discussions on Speck meeting scheduled for Friday 9/28 centered on his qualifications and whether he could fill the role of the facilitator as well as that of the consultant to lead us through the Master Planning efforts. Consensus of the group was that given time lines a consultant who combined these abilities would lend to effectiveness. Our objective is to determine if the candidate has done work in downtown planning roles similar in nature to our community. Group also considered as we move forward that we had an agreed and brief summary to hand to the candidates to orient them to the project and our needs, Chair to provide a first draft.
5. The fund raising status is that we have begun to reach out in a “quiet campaign” to several groups. Ken Bernhard made a presentation to the Chamber Board and Chairman is due to make a second appeal to their Board in early October. It is likely that some funding from the Chamber

will result. DMA has been approached and Chairman will continue to pursue that group and would hope that they would also commit.

Funding strategy is to raise \$50,000 in commitments quickly towards what is initially believed to be a target of \$150,000 to do the Master Plan of Development and Implementation. Chairman believes that the Town will provide up to one half of the total. It was agreed that the initial list of target groups and donors would be circulated for review and input by the Committee.

6. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.