



DOWNTOWN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

April 2021 Draft Minutes

Thursday, April 15 | 8:30 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Chair: Randy Herbertson; Members: Melissa Kane, Alicia Mozian, Samuel Arciola, Jennifer Fava, Ken Bernhard, Kitt Shapiro, Mary Young, Peter Ratkiewich, Pippa Bell Ader, Sara Harris, Craig Schiavone, Deirdre O'Farrelly, Matthew Mandell, Steve Smith, Dave Briggs, Brian McGunagle, Kim Wilson, Gary Conrad; Staff: Donna Douglass

The Downtown Plan Implementation Committee held a public meeting at 8:30 a.m. on **Thursday, April 15, 2021** for the following purposes:

- I. Opening Remarks - Chair
 - A. Overall Meeting Goals
 - B. Introduction of New Members
 1. Kimberly Wilson
 2. Brian McGunagle
 3. David Briggs

No action taken.

- II. Approval of Minutes (3/2021 Meeting)

MOTION (made by Bernhard): To approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting.

SECOND: Mandell

VOTE: Unanimously approved.

- III. Strategic Priority Review

- A. Working Groups

1. Vision & Organization - review of vision documents and current working group assignments.
2. Assignments and Recruiting - request for all committee members to review and update their involvement in working groups, and to make suggestions for other working group members, who must be Westport residents and not elected officials.

- B. Parking Lots Reinvention *Goal: To improve the access, usability, safety, and aesthetics of our public lots, optimizing a balance between parking inventory and pedestrian access, and plan for climate change and flood preparedness.*
 - 1. Baldwin Lot
 - 2. Parker Harding Lot
 - 3. Lower Jesup Green Lot
 - a) Avery Lot - new proposal in development
- C. Technology Upgrades *Goal: Taking advantage of the latest scalable technology, pursue potentially public/private partnerships to bring better Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and other technologies to the outdoor spaces Downtown, to facilitate elements that may include public address/sound systems, parking, and wayfinding facilitation and other uses.*
 - 1. Sidewalk Labs (Alphabet)
 - 2. Park Mobile
- D. Pedestrian Access *Goal: To improve the access and usability of our public outdoor spaces, including the riverfront and other areas, to provide greater opportunity for safe and welcoming leisure activity for all ages and adjacent business enhancement.*
 - 1. Street Closure: Church Lane's pilot
 - 2. Lower Main Street/Taylor Place Evaluation
 - 3. Wayfinding
 - 4. Streetscape Improvements
- E. Sustainability *Goal: To reduce the carbon footprint and improve access and utilization of sustainable resources, and plan for climate change and flood preparedness. Downtown for businesses and patrons through public/private partnerships.*
 - 1. Commercial and patron recycling
 - 2. Energy solarization
 - 3. [Saugatuck River Dredging](#)
- F. Maintenance *Goal: To increase the efficiency and improve the effectiveness of Downtown maintenance of public and easement sidewalks, streets, and green spaces in all seasons.*
 - 1. Special Services District
 - a) [Last Ordinance Draft](#)

No action taken.

IV. Other Business

- A. Westport Transit Authority Funding Endorsement

MOTION (made by Bernhard): To send forward a memo requesting restoration of funding by the RTM for the Westport Transit District.

SECOND: Mozian

RECUSED: Mandell

VOTE: Unanimously approved

V. To adjourn the meeting.

MOTION (made by Mandell): To adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM

Randy Herbertson, Chair

Downtown Plan Implementation Committee

April 20, 2021