

**Minutes from Downtown 2020 Committee Meeting April 18, 2013  
Room # 309 at 8:00 AM**

In Attendance: Lou Gagliano, Bob Jacobs, Ken Bernhard, and Dan Kail

Absent: Valerie Smith-Malin, Gerry Kagan and Craig Rebecca Schiavone

Summary of Minutes

1. Minutes of the meeting of 3/20/13 was reviewed and approved without change.
2. A list of Community groups to seek letters of support was reviewed, approved and with assignments provided to members of the Committee. A template letter was approved for use as a guideline, with the Groups asked to write their own letters. It was left for further review to whom the letters would be sent, more discussion on this point was needed.
3. Chairman reviewed the concept with the group as to the chain of events that flowed from the 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), the creation of the Planning Implementation Committee in 2007, the 2010 Downtown Planning Implementation Committee (DPIC) and Downtown 2020. Chair and group felt this flow of events could help members of the Community understand how our Committee flowed from these former groups, approved plans, and events. Chair agreed to draft a Power Point for the next meeting.
4. Chair also read sections of the 2007 POCD Section 7 dealing with the Downtown area and the 2010 report of the DPIC which were directly related to the type of priorities and programs that the D2020 was concentrating its efforts. Committee felt some of these might be useful as part of our presentation to the P&Z.
5. Members of the Committee including Dan Kail stressed why our efforts would be different by concentrating on implementation of projects that would be specified in the Master Plan.

6. Chair brought up the listing of the 10 items that would not be achieved nor adequate attention provided to if the Master Planning process were not begun. This draft listing was reviewed and it was agreed that reworking of the language was required prior to use in any public meeting.

7. Connie Green a member of the public and the leadership of Save Westport Now (SWN) spoke of the groups concern with our efforts. The concerns of the group were among other points, that we were not an elected Board and this planning effort should fall to the elected P&Z, that they had concerns that the charm of the downtown area may be lost to development, who would provide the direction to the consultants retained for the purpose of the study, and in general SWN did not know where our "Committee was coming from."

8. In response it was suggested by the Chair and added to by members of the Committee, that we understood that our ability to move forward was tied to working cooperatively with the P&Z. Further to this point the meeting in working session environment on May 9<sup>th</sup> was noted.

9. The follow-ups from the meeting were:

- a. Distribute the draft list of non-deliverables,
- b. Quotes from the POCD and the DIPC reports,
- c. Chart of events POCD to D2020
- d. List of community groups for letters of support and members, who are handling the follow-ups,
- e. Consultants "scoring sheet.

10 Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 AM.