

**COMMON COUNCIL
DOWNTOWN DISTRICT COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

The City of Noblesville Council Downtown District Committee met pursuant to public notice on Monday, November 18, 2019. Brian Ayer, Darren Peterson, Greg O'Connor, and Megan Wiles were present. Wil Hampton was absent.

Also present were City Clerk Evelyn Lees, Street Commissioner Patty Johnson, Parks Director Brandon Bennett, Planning Director Sarah Reed, Economic Development Specialist Aaron Head, Project Manager Andrew Rodewald, Esther Lakes, owner of Smith's Jewelers; Lorna Steele, Executive Director of Noblesville Main Street; and Ailithir McGill, Director of Nickel Plate Arts. Bob DuBois, President of the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce and Dan Stevens of the Hamilton County Commissioner's Office arrived at 3:14 p.m. Craig Crosser was absent.

Mr. Peterson called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. He announced that Larry Stork, longtime member of the Board of Works and Safety and former Council member, died on November 16.

Old Business:

1) Status of Funds

a. Light fixture spreadsheet update

Mr. Rodewald stated bids for the installation of streetlights came in lower than expected.

Mr. Peterson stated he plans to meet with Controller Jeff Spalding in January to better understand what funds are available.

2) Status Report on the Levinson Project

a. Levinson update and communications to the public – Noblesville NOW

Mr. O'Connor asked if the City receives regular updates from Tim Jensen of Veridus Group, who was hired to represent the City's interests in the project. Ms. Reed replied most updates come from David Rainey of Veridus Group and are shared weekly with Noblesville NOW. Mr. Head stated weekly updates are sent to local businesses on Fridays, then shared with others on Saturdays.

b. Track removal update

Mr. Peterson stated the streets where the tracks were removed look good.

c. Other construction projects in Downtown/Logan Street Bridge

Mr. Stevens stated the bridge will be complete and open by mid-December. He stated a ribbon cutting is expected on January 6th at 4:00 p.m.

d. Road/sidewalk/paving closures

This item was not discussed.

3) Parking PILOT - approved

Mr. Peterson commended the Administration for leasing 35 parking spaces behind the former Key Bank building at 9th and Logan Streets. Ms. McGill stated Downtown was packed with people last weekend, and she did not hear any complaints about parking.

4) Alley Activation

a. Construction progress

Ms. McGill stated Kevin Huff is beginning work on the archway for Seminary Park, but a contract needs to be executed.

b. Globe asphalt and crosswalks

Mr. Peterson stated he continues to investigate the possibility of using asphalt medallions to mark the boundaries of the Downtown District.

c. Traffic weight restrictions in Alleys

This item was not discussed.

5) Park Updates

a. Seminary Park Construction progress

Mr. Bennett stated construction is almost complete. He stated the Edison lights were lit last Friday. He stated the star brick pavers worked well, and fencing is being installed. He stated construction should be complete by the end of the month. There was a discussion concerning the ribbon cutting, and that it might be held concurrently with opening Lights over Seminary. Mr. Bennett stated the banner poles near the northwest corner of the park will be removed and replaced with brick-wrapped columns. Ms. Lakes asked if benches will be installed. Mr. Bennett replied the existing benches will remain, some will be added, and picnic tables will be added in the spring. He noted brick columns will be installed in the spring as well. He stated water fountains (which are black) will be installed this week, and 140 peonies were recently planted by volunteers. He stated Kelly McVey researched the peonies, led the volunteers, and hopes to have an event called "Peonies in the Park" next spring. Mr. Bennett stated the Edison lights are quite striking at night, and he feels the park will serve as a gateway to Downtown.

Mr. Head stated Lights over Seminary is scheduled to begin on December 6th, but he still needs sponsors to decorate trees. He noted some of the decorations have stakes in the

ground, so he needs to know the new locations of the utilities. Mr. Bennett offered to help with locations.

b. Riverside Cemetery

Ms. Lees stated a new ordinance is being drafted.

6) Furniture

a. New flower pot installation

The committee agreed the flower pots are very attractive. Ms. Johnson stated a few pots may need to be moved slightly to allow snow clearing on some sidewalks. Ms. Steele will ask business owners to decorate the trees in the pots in front of their businesses.

Ms. Johnson stated more benches have been ordered, but they will not be placed until the spring.

b. Patio fencing, new applications

This item was not discussed.

c. Light Pole installation schedule

Mr. Rodewald stated installation will occur after the holidays, most likely in early spring.

New Business:

1) Review of Master Plan and projects for 2020

This item was not discussed.

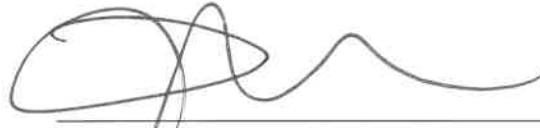
Other Business:

- 1) Mr. Ayer stated the east/west alley between Huntington Bank and the Exxon gas station on 10th Street between Maple Avenue and Conner Street is very dark and should have lights.
- 2) Mr. Peterson stated leaf pickup seems to be progressing well. Ms. Johnson praised the new leaf vacuum and hopes to transition all of the current leaf vacuums to the new, one-operator model. She stated the new model needs fewer operators and is twice as fast as the older models. She stated she is researching a new business to compost the leaves.
- 3) There was a discussion of the many holiday events that will be held Downtown, beginning with the tree lighting on Friday, November 29th.

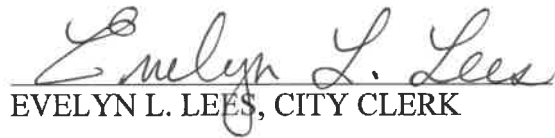
- 4) There will not be a meeting in December. Meetings for 2020 will be set after the new Administration and Council take office in January.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.



DARREN PETERSON, COMMITTEE CHAIR



EVELYN L. LEES, CITY CLERK