



FARMINGTON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
MINUTES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017  
Conference Room, City Hall

Meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by President Gallagher

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Buck, Clement, Craft, Gallagher, Galvin, Griswold, Skrzycki  
S. Murphy 6:10, Pascaris 6:20

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: David Murphy, Executive Director  
Kevin Christianson, Economic Development

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

MOTION by Buck, Second by Skrzycki

RESOLVED, That the board accepts and files the Regular Minutes of April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and the April invoice distribution as presented. MOTION CARRIED, ALL AYES

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kathy Waun, Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors  
Presentation re: Placemaking Grant opportunity  
Criteria, information, copy of application for board

**OPEN MEETING ACT DISCUSSION**

Fact sheet given, rules and regulations discussed regarding quorum and fact vs. opinion

**MAXFIELD TRAINING CENTER UPDATE**

Kevin Christianson, Progress Update Report  
RFP and purchase agreements completed. Developers and city representatives met with homeowners and the public. Explanation of PUD process explained. Discussion ensued regarding details:

- Proposed 189 rental contemporary urban loft apartments
- Studio 1, 2, and 3 bedroom units
- 236 parking spaces on lower level

Conceptual planning stage now, looking to link the park and downtown, landscaping et al TBD. Another hearing will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Concerns from board include the amount of parking related to guests (historically 1.5 spaces per tenant), church parking, traffic circulation and neighborhood infiltration

Shift in direction of thoughts... Gallagher asking what the Maxfield project means to the board...

6 yrs it has been vacant

60,000 square feet

People afraid of change, worried about their property values

Recommend fully informing on all sides, others points of view

Point out/opinion increase in value due to scarcity

Inform re: financial status of city and DDA, cause and effect of dev.

W/o influx of cash revenue, no status quo, thinking empty businesses in 6yrs

Question of community investment in tenant based living

Relative to parking- hope not worse

Positive, 40+ people talking about Farmington is a good thing

Suspect the houses mentioned will not be there at the end of this project

Hoping to bring the community along with positives

? Design/ change façade to align with historic section

Blend in tastefully old and new, + faith in commissions

There's a need for education and acknowledgment of the challenges

Accentuate the positives

400+ new customers, can't wait

Question: What if city doesn't approve?

It's up to the developer, redesign or walk away.

Question: What about an extra level underground for increased parking?

Will make developer aware

### **OVERVIEW ON WALKER PARKING STUDY**

The board felt there were no surprises. Proposed location for a garage felt to be positive. The study was not opinion but engineered. It validates past actions. Re-doing study periodically is wise. There were immediate changes to Saturday parking, example of taking an active roll in measuring usage and adjusting with creative measures to efficiently and effectively utilize resources. Questions were raised regarding data mining and what we might be losing without additional parking resources.

John Perry was introduced as the newest member on the parking advisory committee.

### **DEVELOP PLAN FOR GRAND RIVER RESURFACING PROJECT**

Gallagher requests money for signage during construction ('excuse our dust' type).

Communications regarding timelines and business survival guide requested. Suggestions:

Facebook updates and authorization of temporary signs on businesses, possible use of High school parking lot for shuttle services during peak times, an opportunity to promote walk-ability, Fit Bit contest

### **DIA INSIDE OUT UPDATE**

Postcard promotion eliminated to increase cost effectiveness of materials. Plans from volunteer community presented and promotional poster sneak peek.

## **LADIES NIGHT OUT UPDATE**

'Crazy busy' at five, weather good, 150+ gift cards entered, well received. Some businesses were out of everything and closed early (Bellis Spa) additional +1500 sales at Dress Barn

## **BOARD COMMENT**

Board member Buck reported Innovate Farmington is a continued success, 1500 members.

Board member Craft commented on social media support for events to boost awareness. Look into using channel 15. Also looking to facilitate using current methods of as a DDA to like post comment and support/promote

Board member Murphy reminding board that May 12<sup>th</sup> Inspector Pathways will be giving a historical tour of downtown Farmington.

Board member Skrzycki reported meeting new events coordinator Sara Robertson. Art on the Grand updates were shared with the board and the Warner Mansion Spring Gala fashion show is coming up. Rhythmz in Riley Park is now fully funded and going forward, thank you to Tom Buck and Rachel Gallagher for sponsorships.

Board member Galvin requested aligning the agendas to other boards. He encouraged DDA members to promote and listen to the people... questions the preservationist director regarding the pulse of the community- be alert

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTIONED BY S. MURPHY, SECONDED BY CRAFT**

**RESOLVED, that the meeting is adjourned**

**MOTIONED CARRIED, ALL AYES**

The meeting was adjourned at

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., in the conference room at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

(Agnes) Micki Skrzycki  
Secretary, Farmington DDA