



DOWNTOWN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

109 EAST OLIVE STREET; BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2017 AT 4:30 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment

(Each regular Task Force meeting shall have a public comment period not to exceed 30 minutes. Every speaker is entitled to speak for up to 3 minutes. To be considered for public comment, complete a public comment card at least 5 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The Chairperson will randomly draw from the cards submitted. Public comment is a time to give comment. It is not a question and answer period, and the Task Force Committee does not respond to public comments. Speakers who engage in threatening or disorderly behavior will have their time ceased.)

4. Consideration, review and approval of Minutes from the June 13, 2017 meeting.
5. Items for discussion
 - a. Review of the zoning ordinance update project (Presentation by Tom Dabareiner, Community Development Director)
 - b. Benefits of historic preservation (Presentation by Lea Cline, Historic Preservation Commission Member)
6. Downtown Task Force Committee discussion
7. Public Listening Session
8. Adjourn

DOWNTOWN TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

109 EAST OLIVE STREET; BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017 AT 12:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Chairman Buragas called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and asked Ms. Hon to call the Roll.

2. Roll Call Committee Member Bray, Committee Member Mathy, Committee Member Robustelli, Committee Member Boyd, Committee Member Stiller, Committee Member Manna, Committee Member Vericella, Committee Member Haney, Committee Member Buragas.

List who was present of the Task Force:

Committee Member Kim Bray, Committee Member Carlo Robustelli, Committee Member Justin Boyd, Committee Member Tricia Stiller, Committee Member Bobby Vericella, Committee Member Joe Haney and Chairperson Amelia Buragas

Staff Present:

George Boyle, Assistant Corporation Counsel; Melissa Hon, Assistant to the City Manager; Tom Dabareiner, Community Development Director; David Hales, City Manager; Steve Rasmussen, Assistant City Manager

3. Public Comment: None

4. Items for discussion

- a. Review of OMA Guidelines and Compliance (Presentation by George Boyle, Assistant Corporation Counsel)

Mr. Boyle discussed two things about the Open Meetings Act and The Freedom of Information Act. He urged everyone to take the training if they had not. As an appointed government official, it is a requirement to take the training. State law requires that it be taken within 90 days of appointment. He also stated that if anyone has a question to please contact the Legal Department.

Getting to the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act, there are some good materials from the Illinois Municipal League. The theory behind the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act is that this is the people's government and the people are entitled to know how it functions, what we base our decision on and what kinds of actions will be taken. We are talking about giving the public access to what our topics of conversation are going to be at meetings and also what our actions are going to be. The Open Meetings Act defines a meeting as the gathering of a majority of quorum of members of a public body for

purposes of discussing public business.

The Freedom of Information Act is designed to give the public access to documents used by government in their function. There are some exceptions for personal information, security, trade secrets, those kinds of things.

- b. Review of the results of the downtown stakeholder goals, objectives and priorities. (Presentation by Tom Dabareiner, Community Development Director)

Mr. Dabareiner stated that there are some things to keep in mind. He discussed the Downtown Stakeholder's Meeting that occurred on September 22 of last year. He noted that everyone had been given the information from that meeting which included a timeframe that comes from the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in August of 2015 and is an award winner. We do not want to stray too much from the Comprehensive Plan.

There were four top priority objectives and the first one was to improve and promote downtown as a clean and safe place. The importance of safety and cleanliness was talked about as well as concerns over homelessness and trash disposal. The second item was pursue catalyst projects that can serve as additional downtown anchors. Specifically called out as positives are the Route 66 efforts, the museum and the BCPA. The third item was to protect the scale and character of historic downtown and provide appropriate parameters for new development that complements its historic character. We are updating our zoning ordinance. The fourth item was to reinvent the warehouse district.

- c. Discussion of the Downtown Task Force Committee Objectives

Mr. Rasmussen talked about what the staff is doing because many of these things are already underway. We did the downtown Bloomington strategy in November of 2013 and that was incorporated almost entirely into the comprehensive plan. This downtown strategy is a piece of it. There were several items including building a healthy downtown that offers a range of housing, marketing, the historic character, promoting a clean and safe downtown and continue multimodal transportation.

Chairperson Buragas stated that she envisioned that unless there are other circumstances and we have a lot of people, it is nice to meet here at the round table. We may have times that we want to hold a public hearing or get a lot more public feedback, then we will change locations and will have to be flexible with that. She stated that every meeting will have a theme or a couple of themes where we may get a presentation or additional information from staff or from other community groups to help guide us through the conversation and to generate ideas of what kind of recommendations we can be making.

Committee Member Vericella asked that once we address something, will it go to the City Council and they are going to vote on it.

Commissioner Buragas answered that we will come up with a document for City Council and we will present it to them. They would not necessarily take action on all those items at once, but it would give them a framework to begin working on it. If they were short-term items that there were strong feelings that need to be accomplished now, we would have the opportunity to work through the Council request form and other ways of getting items directly on the agenda more quickly. If

we all want to see this Task Force and see the results of it, we need to be very clear of what needs to be done and present that to Council.

Committee Member Robustelli stated that one of things that we should take the opportunity to look at are what are the barriers to economic development or downtown development and specific downtown rehabilitation for our older buildings.

Chairperson Buragas stated that in terms of prioritization, the next building likely will focus on zoning and perhaps historic preservation.

5. Approval of future meeting schedule

6. Adjourn