



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft DOWNTOWN COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 16, 2010

5:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Downtown Coordinating Committee was held on Thursday, September 16, 2010 in Room 108, City-County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Chair Thiel called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Present: 14 -

Michael E. Verveer; Bryon A. Eagon; Melissa M. Berger; Rosemary Lee; Jeremy P. Levin; Thomas C. Miller; Mary Lang Sollinger; Troy A. Thiel; Ted Crabb; Ledell Zellers; Patrick T. McDonnell; Mary C. Carbine; Donna V. Hurd and LaVonne LaFave

Excused: 2 -

Daniel H. Chin and Sarah K. Reiter

Parks Staff Present: Steve Doniger (left at 6:30 p.m.), Kelli Lamberty, Joy Kummerow, LaVonne LaFave

City Staff Present Jeanne Hoffman, Engineering, Chris Klein, Mayoral Aide

DCC Member Departures: Jeremy Levin left at 6:00 p.m., Mary Lang Sollinger left at 6:15 p.m., Melissa Berger, Thomas Miller and Ald. Michael Verveer all left at 7:00 p.m., Ledell Zellers left at 7:10 p.m.

DCC Alt. Arrived: Donna Hurd arrived at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Lee/Levin to take items V. B-C-D out of order. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

19820

To approve the 2011 Operating Plan for Madison's Central Business Improvement District (#1).

Carbine reported that there were no real chances other than the addition of the Ambassador staffing of the Visitor Center at Peace Park. It also contains the first raise in the history of the BID.

A motion was made by Lee/Lang-Sollinger to approve Resolution ID#19820 to approve the 2011 Operating Plan for Madison's Central Business Improvement District (#1). **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

19398

Establishing a Glass-Free Zone for the State Street area from 9:30 pm on October 29, 2010 to 5:00 am on October 30, 2010 and from 9:30 pm on October 30, 2010 to 5:00 am on October 31, 2010.

A motion was made by Lee/McDonnell to approve Resolution ID#19398 establishing a Glass-Free Zone for the State Street area from 9:30 p.m. on October 29, 2010 to 5:00 a.m. on October 30, 2010 and from 9:30 p.m. on October 30, 2010 to 5:00 a.m. on October 31, 2010. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A request was made by Ald. Verveer to place item V. D. on the table until Chris Klein arrived to afford him the opportunity to address this Resolution. REQUEST CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Carbine/Miller to take item V. A. out of order. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Central Library Update

Jeanne Hoffman of the Engineering Department noted that the next meeting on the library plans will be held on September 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Madison Senior Center and invited all present to attend.

The city has contracted with Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle who are working locally with Potter Lawson. Known for their library designs and renovation, they conducted an assessment of the Central Library this past summer to determine square footage needs for the different sections. The design is divided into different zones based on prominent, moderately active and less active areas with a total recommendation of 126,074 square feet. These needs include an entry, commons, teen area, fiction, reference and non-fiction areas, and approximately 18 meeting rooms. The current design is approximately 105,000 square feet but has lots of unusable space due to long halls, the loading dock and mezzanine area. Different slides were exhibited showing breakdowns for each type of need, including seating and computers for general use. The book collection would also increase to approximately 385,000 volumes. Currently there are approximately 342,000 volumes that do not include CD's, DVD's or magazines. It was also suggested that books currently in storage be moved to make them available for the public. There is a need for compact shelving on each floor.

Different slides showing the various views of the library were then presented showing the potential for 150,000 square feet.

There are three upcoming design meetings on September 28, October 14 and November 4 all from 7 to 9:00 p.m. The architects need the public to come and express what they want the new library to contain. The meeting on the 28th will discuss concepts, the meeting on the 14th will present a draft schematic design and the meeting on the 4th will finalize the schematic design. There will then be one or two additional public meetings following the first of the year. Design and development will occur in early spring, followed by construction documents. It is anticipated that ground breaking will occur either the end of

summer or early fall 2011.

The library will contain green features that may include a rooftop garden. The commitment is for a Silver Leeds certification. The city has also budgeted for a photo tag system solar installation on the roof of the library. The budget is \$29.5 million and includes both the construction and furnishings. That sum is comprised of GO borrowing, donations and new market tax credits. A brief discussion took place regarding the possibility of a coffee shop in the library or other food vendor operations in the building to make it more rentable.

Returning to the Agenda,

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by McDonnell/Crabb to approve the Minutes of the August 19, 2010 regular meeting of the Downtown Coordinating Committee. MOTION CARRIED.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public wishing to speak on issues not on the Agenda.

IV. STAFF REPORTS

Special Events – The written report was in the mailing. There is a still lot of activity with the return of the students, football and political campaigning. Taste of Madison had tremendous crowds that created gridlock on the Isthmus. It was felt that cleanup was about the same as in previous years. In response to questions about whether Ironman would be returning, it was noted this is a GMV&CB event. It is excellent for business.

While Elizabeth Link Peace Park hasn't officially reopened, a group has requested use of the space on October 10, 2010 (10-10-10) for a sustainability parade with music in the park. The peace pole was installed today.

Mall/Concourse Maintenance – The July report was distributed since it wasn't in the August packets.

Carbine added that in prior years the BID had funded the placement of holiday evergreens in the large pots over winter. A decision was made to prioritize their budget toward staffing the Visitor Center and suspend funding evergreen program. Unfortunately the planters will probably become ex officio trash receptacles. It was also noted the Superintendent had offered to have Forestry supply boughs but that is only a small part of the cost. They require design, the boughs need to be sprayed with fire retardant and someone needs to install them. Therefore there will be no boughs this year.

A request was made to check about the smell by Ocean's Restaurant on Martin

Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

The Committee was informed that as part of the streetscape update, the sod was removed from the city side of the Capital Square and has been replaced with new trees, new shrubs and a tall fescue grass that will be cut at 3.5 inches in height. The prior sod was easily trampled and did not recover from the abuse it took.

[19786](#)

Amending the 2010 Operating Budgets of the Police Department, Engineering Division, Streets Division and Parks Division by appropriating \$35,690 from the Contingent Reserve Fund, utilizing these funds for various expenses related to the Halloween event, and authorizing the receipt of revenues derived from admission fees and donations. Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract with Frank Productions, Inc., subject to the conditions included in the Street Use Permit expected to be issued to Frank Productions, Inc. for events associated with Halloween 2010.

A request was made by Ald. Verveer to take item V. D. off the table. **REQUEST CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mayoral Aide, Chris Klein stated that he was Joel Plant's replacement in the Mayor's office and handles the same issues as well as all transportation related issues and Halloween/Freakfest. Police have budgeted for supplies and mounted police, the University Inn will not be used as a staging area and they will not have the lighting trucks this year. There may be some small gate changes.

A motion was made by Crabb/Lee to approve Resolution ID#19786 amending the 2010 Operating Budgets of the Police Department, Engineering Division, Streets Division and Parks Division by appropriating \$35,690 from the Contingent Reserve Fund, utilizing these funds for various expenses related to the Halloween event, and authorizing the receipt of revenues derived from admission fees and donations. Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract with Frank Productions, Inc., subject to the conditions included in the Street Use Permit expected to be issued to Frank Productions, Inc. for events associated with Halloween 2010. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. High Speed Rail Update

High Speed Rail Station Update

Klein distributed sketches showing the Madison high speed rail station, that included an aerial plan diagram, 2 passenger flow diagrams, the Monona Terrace entry, a view from the passenger platform, 2 views from John Nolen Drive and the next steps in the process. He also discussed briefly the intermodal station and public market for the area. It was announced that George Austin had been hired for the preliminary planning for the public market development. At this point they are not sure where an intermodal station would be located. It could be at the DOA building or across the street.

It is also anticipated that a bike station would be located in the immediate vicinity that is designed to serve both train customers and people who want to commute that would include lockers, showers, etc. A brief discussion of the parking needs for the train station took place. DOT is looking for 400 spaces for people using the train.

The DOT wants to use the front face of the DOA building on Wilson Street for retail establishments, including restaurants and ticketing kiosks. Amtrak wants to have a staffed ticket station in the building. The State will own and operate the station and are still in discussions with Amtrak for the first floor main waiting area. The plans currently show one escalator that will run either up or down depending on traffic flow. How bikes would use the escalator are currently in planning stages.

Information regarding the trains included the fact there will be 14 to 15 cars behind the locomotive. There will be a platform cover for people boarding the train. There will be a crash wall next to the tracks in case of derailment; the exact height and material are unknown at this time. The tracks are owned by the two freight trains running in this area and operating agreements need to be negotiated with them. Freight rails must have upgraded tracks by 2015 that have positive trail controls to prevent collisions and until that feature is installed passenger trains cannot go 110 mph. There will be sidings where either the freight or passenger train will wait while the other is in operation but freight trains will not stop on street crossings if they have to wait for commuter and/or passenger trains to load/unload.

The following items are still in discussion stages: an entry at Monona Terrace, taxi and passenger drop offs/pick-ups. City bus services needs to be linked into this area and suggestions have been made to have a metro kiosk in the station waiting area where daily bus passes could be purchased. It is not known whether the mural will be moved. The next steps include doing the environmental work which should be completed in early 2011, at which time the final designs will be set. Station construction will probably occur in 2012. The trains should be up and running by 2013 and it is projected they will make 6 trips to the downtown station per day. It was also noted that the entire project could be affected by the November elections.

DOT is preparing a corridor management plan and setting up a focus group. They have asked the Mayor's office to submit names for that group that will include neighborhood, alder and bus representation. This group will discuss everything except the station itself. They will discuss fencing, quiet zones and how trains will travel through neighborhoods. DOT is the driving force for all of the stations. The state will own and operate the Madison station and the other stations will be owned and operated by the cities they go through.

The Mayor is in favor of improving access from John Nolen Drive via the Monona Terrace elevator up to Wilson Street and may add another elevator to facilitate this. It is important to get bikes from the bike path to the train station.

Ald. Verveer added that reconstruction of the outer ring is being delayed for two years and consequently the bump-outs for pedestrian safety would be delayed.

Alds. Verveer and Rummel are hosting a meeting on September 20 at 7:00 p.m.

at Overture regarding the High Speed Rail issue.

Discussion turned to the whole transportation issue in the area. There will be pickups and drop offs, the new parking ramp is to be designed to accommodate 1200 spaces, the trains will each hold approximately 398 passengers. That brings lots of modes of transportation and people to the area. How will it accommodate these uses safely?

VII. UPDATES

Subcommittees

Land Use and Living Downtown Committee – No report.

Downtown Infrastructure Committee – No report.

Transportation Committee – There will be a Downtown infrastructure report next month

Member Interests/Outside Committees

Bid Activities – Carbine distributed her written report. Elizabeth Link Peace Park is in the final stages of completion and they anticipate receiving the Certificate of Occupancy in a couple of days. The revised Code of Conduct for the Visitor Center was approved by the Park Commission on September 1.

Capitol Neighborhoods – No report.

GSSBA – Maxwell Street Days did well this year due to good weather.

State Street Oversight – No report.

Roundup – Please make an effort to attend the Central Library meetings.

VIII> NEXT MEETING

October 21, 2010

Possible topics – Freakfest Update, Porchlight w/Steve Schooler

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Eagon/Carbine to adjourn at 7:31 p.m.