

Virtual Meeting Instruction

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK ADVISORY



Hello,

As many of you know, recent restrictions and mandates have been issued in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. For this reason, and for the safety and wellbeing of our members and employees, we would like to continue to move GR Forward through virtual meetings.

We have decided to use Microsoft Teams for video/phone conferencing for all upcoming board and alliance meetings. Teams has many exciting features including screen sharing, recording, live captions, file sharing, and more. Below are instructions on how to access your upcoming virtual meeting.



MICROSOFT TEAMS

How to Join the Meeting:

1. It is recommended to download the App (but not necessary):
 - a. [Apple Devices](#).
 - b. [Android Devices](#).
2. When you click the following link, it will prompt you to choose: Launch App, Download App, or Join by the web. [Click here to access the Team meeting.](#)
3. Allow access to your mic and camera (this is very important for you to join the conversation).
4. Prior to joining the meeting, it will require you type your name. Make sure your mic and audio are on and click join.

Virtual Meeting Etiquette:

- Test the app and all technology (including camera/video, Wi-Fi, and audio) before the meeting.
- Always have a contingency plan, you may want to download the app to a second device.
- Mute your microphone when you're not speaking.
- Start a comment by saying your name. Not everyone may recognize your voice. This practice also facilitates the work of the person who is taking minutes.
- Be aware of your surroundings: make sure your background is professional and work appropriate.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please email mmcdaniel@downtowngr.org.
Thank you!

Best,
Mandy



Mandy McDaniel
Administrative Assistant
Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.

29 Pearl NW, Suite 1
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
P: 616 . 719 . 4610

AGENDA



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK

Advisory

Members:

Christopher Billmeier • Daniel Drent • Eddie Tadlock • Jane Reynolds • Kathy Steindler • Kelli Jo Peltier • Latesha Lipscomb • Laurie Craft • Mark Tangen • Michael Dorney • Myric Harris • Rose Martinez White • Wilma Banks •

December 3, 2020

11:30pm- 12:30pm

Micorosft Teams

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Call to order/ introductions | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 2. | Approval of minutes | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 3. | Project Updates | |
| | • DNN Advisory Retirements | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| | • DNN 2021 Calendar | |
| | • Elect 2021 advisory slate [action required] | |
| | • Spin Update | Kristin Bennett |
| | • Homeless Outreach updates | Annamarie Buller |
| | • Safer Streets Updates | |
| | • DNN Website Update | |
| 4. | Public comment | |
| 5. | Next meeting on January 7, 2021 | |
| 6. | Adjournment | |

January meeting content:

World of Winter 2021

DNN Orientation- required for all members

- What is DGRI?
- What is Goal 2 Alliance?
- What is the DNN?
- DNN Priorities for 2021

The DNN exists to foster a community of downtown neighbors that are connected, informed and empowered to improve downtown living.





Downtown Neighbor Network Advisory

November 05, 2020

1. Call to order: Ms. Buller called the meeting to order at 11:33 am.
2. DNN Members Present: Kelli Jo Peltier, Wilma Banks, Laurie Craft, Christopher Billmeier, Jane Reynolds, Kathy Steindler, and Daniel Drent.

DNN Members Absent: Drew Terwee, Myric Harris, Eddie Tadlock, Michael Dorney, Mark Tangen, Rose Martinez White, Amy Skentzos, and Latesha Lipscomb.

Others Present: Arianna Skentzos, Tammy Britton, Brian Rolloff, Christine, Neil Sly, Jonathan Shotwell, Jim Talen, Mike Clarke, and Tika McCoy.

DGRI Staff: Annamarie Buller, Marion Bonneaux, Melvin Eledge, Amanda Sloan, and Kim Van Driel.

3. Approval of DNN Advisory Minutes – October 2020
Kathy Steindler, supported by Laurie Craft, motioned to approve October 1, 2020 Meeting Minutes. None opposed. Motion passed.
4. DNN Updates:
 - a. HOT Update:
Ms. Tammy Britton, Homeless Outreach Coordinator, stated the Homeless Outreach Taskforce (HOT) started in April of 2020 as a partnership between the Grand Rapids Fire and Police departments. When HOT began, it was in response to COVID to help reduce the spread to those experiencing homelessness in our community. Since then it is expected to be a mainstay and has expanded beyond responding to COVID. HOT will also add team members through a contract with Network 180. The plan is to hire two social workers and two addiction specialists to the team. Those positions are currently being filled through Network 180.

HOT responds to complaints, concerns, or issues related to homelessness. The current hours are Monday through Saturday, 6 am to 4 pm. On a day to day basis, the team responds to issues of street homelessness by meeting with businesses, homeowners, and homelessness service providers to problem solve and resolve different issues.

The City of Grand Rapids is working with Community Rebuilders to do a geographically targeted housing outreach. The goal is to help 60 homeless individuals find safe, affordable, and permanent housing by the end of December. The targeted outreach current focus areas are Rosa Parks Circle and Monroe Center. Since the project began in mid-October, 37 individuals have been identified and found, 8 have been moved into temporarily housing, and 12 individuals have been offered a permanent housing resource.

To contact HOT, email grhot@grcity.us or call at 616.456.4240.

To reach Tammy Britton, the Homeless Outreach Coordinator, email tbritton@grand-rapids.mi.us

To learn more about Community Rebuilders outcomes in this effort you can visit this dashboard which is updated weekly:

<https://communityrebuilders.org/geographically-targeted-outreach/>

b. DNN Advisory Recruitment

Ms. Kelli Jo Peltier stated today is the deadline to submit applications. So far 13 applications have been submitted and 3 of those have backed out for a variety of reasons. The DNN nominating committee includes Daniel Drent, Eddie Tadlock, Kelli Jo Peltier, who will review applications tomorrow. The committee will recommend a slate to members for discussion. Up to 8 members will be selected in December, and they will begin January 2021. Those resigning are Wilma Banks, Michael Dorney, Jane Reynolds, Amy Skentzos, and Drew Terwee. In addition, the vice chair role still needs to be filled for 2021. If you are interested, please contact Kelli Jo Peltier or Annamarie Buller.

c. DNN Website

Ms. Buller stated to help market and expand the Downtown Neighbor Network brand, it was decided to create a standalone website. The website is for current and potential neighbors. Last month Well Design was chosen as the vendor to assist in designing/creating the website. Staff met with Well Design in October to review the process and agreement. In December, we will ask the DDA for funding

approval. If you are interested in joining the DNN website working group, please contact Annamarie Buller.

d. Safer Streets Update

i. DNN Book Club

Ms. Buller stated to help us learn about Safer Streets and deepen our knowledge of best practice in this field, we are considering putting together a book club. The book club would consist of members from the Downtown Neighbor Network Advisory, Goal 2 Alliance, and Goal 3 Alliance. The goal is to purchase and distribute books in December. Jonathan Shotwell has agreed to co-facilitate. The book in consideration is called *Right of Way: Race, Class, and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America* by Angie Schmitt. Schmitt was the editor at StreetsBlog for many years.

Angie Schmitt, Right Of Way Content:

Webinar: <https://nextcity.org/webinars/view/angie-schmitt-on-right-of-way>

Podcasts on the book:

- <https://usa.streetsblog.org/2020/09/17/talking-headways-podcast-right-of-way-with-angie-schmitt/>
- <https://thewaroncars.org/2020/09/11/right-of-way/>
- <http://www.dailydetroit.com/2020/10/13/the-silent-epidemic-of-pedestrian-deaths-and-what-can-be-done-about-it/>

ii. Review Agenda for Action

Ms. Buller stated last month we discussed interventions and what the DNN would like to focus on moving forward. The 4 main areas the group had agreed on for focus on are as follows:

1. Education
2. Build support for policy changes
3. Target crosswalks for improvements
4. Consider motorcycle issue downtown

Ms. Steindler stated a new issue is pedestrian safety with scooters now on the sidewalks. Ms. Van Driel stated Mobile GR is working on educational opportunities for the scooters and suggested inviting Kristen

Bennet to share updates with the group on scooters and what is yet to come.

Ms. Buller will email the list of focus areas for members to select goals or projects they would like to work on and/or see implemented in the near future.

6. Member Discussion

None

7. Public Comment

None

8. Next Meeting Dates: December 03, 2020 11:30 pm

9. Adjournment

Ms. Buller adjourned the meeting at 12:46 pm.

Minutes taken by:

Mandy McDaniel

Administrative Assistant

Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.

Downtown Neighbor Network Advisory

Virtual participation until further notice

Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.
29 Pearl St. NW, Suite 1
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

2021 Meeting Schedule

January 7, 2021- 11:30pm- 1:00pm
February 4, 2021- 11:30pm- 1:00pm
March 4, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
April 1, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
May 6, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
June 3, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
July 1, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
August 5, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
September 2, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
October 7, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
November 4, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm
December 2, 2021- 11:30am-1:30pm

Please contact Mandy at Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc. at 616-719-4610 or mmcdaniel@downtowngr.org to RSVP for each meeting.



Downtown
Neighbor
Network



DOWNTOWN
GRAND RAPIDS INC.

2021 DNN Advisor Board Slate Additions:

1. Kathy Steindler, Vice Chairwoman for the DNN
2. Arianna Skentzos, McKay Tower/ Central
3. Jim Talen, Waters Tower Condos/ Heritage Hill
4. Jonathan Shotwell, 38 Commerce/ Heartside
5. Neil Sly, 820 Monroe/ Monroe North/ Belknap Lookout
6. Anwar Thomas, Rivers Edge/ Monroe North/ Belknap Lookout
7. Christine Carson, Rowe/ West Grand
 - 3 men, 3 women
 - 1 gen z, 4 millennials, 1 boomer
 - 5 white, 1 black
 - 1 central city, 1 heritage hill, 1 heartside, 2 belknap, 1 west grand

DNN Advisors Renewing for 2021:

1. Daniel Drent, Herkimer Apartments/ Heartside
2. Eddie Tadlock, Fitzgerald/ Central
3. Kathy Steindler, City View Condominiums, 60 Monroe Center/ Central
4. Kelli Jo Peltier, Plaza Towers/ Central
5. Latesha Lipscomb, Division Avenue Park Place/ Heartside
6. Laurie Craft, Riverhouse/ West Grand
7. Mark Tagen, The Lofts/ Heartside
8. Christopher Billmeier, Fitzgerald/ Central
9. Rose Martinez-White, Union Square/ West Grand
 - 4 men, 5 women
 - 3 millennials, 6 boomers
 - 6 white, 2 black, 1 latinx
 - 4 central city, 3 heartside, 2 west grand

Totals of both groups combined:

- 7 men, 8 women
- 1 gen z, 7 millennials, 7 boomers
- 11 white, 3 black, 1 latinx
- 5 central city, 4 heartside, 2 belknap, 2 west grand, 1 heritage hill

Talented but not added this year:

- Celeste McDonald, Riverhouse
- Tika McCoy, The Boardwalk/ Monroe North/ Belknap Lookout
- Hal Froot, Plaza Tower
- Kristin Kopec, Boardwalk (can't make meetings unless meeting time changes)
- Doreen Timmer (not currently living Downtown, former Fergeson Resident)
- Scott Scholten, 600 Monroe/ Monroe North/ Belknap Lookout (withdrew)
- Margaux Drake, Rivers Edge/ Monroe North/ Belknap Lookout (emailed but never applied or responded)

Scooter Share Pilot Underway

The City of Grand Rapids scooter share pilot is now underway. E-scooters arrived in late September. [Shared micromobility services](#) like scooters and bicycles provide solo, low-cost, on-demand transportation options. They connect with transit, parking and ride sharing as well as important destinations in Grand Rapids.

We've been working hard to bring shared micromobility to you and visitors for several years. We completed a [bike share feasibility study](#) in 2018. The [Citywide Strategic Plan](#) and the [Equitable Economic Development and Mobility Strategic Plan](#) recommend new affordable transportation pilots like scooter and bike share.

Kinds of Available Vehicles

We're partnering with the vendor [Spin](#) for an e-scooter pilot for at least 12 months. Stand-on e-scooters from Spin are available to ride now. We're also exploring the possibility to offer seated e-scooters and bicycles soon.

How It Works

If you are 18 years or older, you can use the shared vehicles by following these steps:

- Download the Spin app onto an Android or iOS smart phone.
- Using the app, find a shared vehicle in one of the Designated Parking Zones.
- Follow the screen prompts in the app to setup your ride.
- Pay for your session in the app with a debit or credit card.
- Take your ride – remember to ride in the street (not the sidewalk!) *with* the flow of traffic.
- After you ride, park the vehicle in a Designated Parking Zone to avoid further charges.

Where Can I Find a Vehicle to Use?

Our pilot currently covers a 12 square-mile area. Scooters are downtown, in many local business areas, and almost three-quarters of the City's Neighborhoods of Focus. The Neighborhoods of Focus cover several modest income neighborhoods on the west, southwest and southeast sides of Grand Rapids.

We've installed over 175 Designated Parking Zones where you can pick up and drop off e-scooters (and bicycles when they arrive). These Designated Parking Zones help with sidewalk accessibility and cut down on clutter. They are downtown and in many neighborhood business areas. You can also find them near transit stops, public parking and many other community destinations within the pilot service area.

Use the Spin app to find Designated Parking Zones near you and your destination. Then look for painted white boxes on the sidewalk with pavement decals near intersections. (Street signs for the Designated Parking Zones are coming soon!)

How Much Does It Cost and How Can I Pay?

The stand-on e-scooters from Spin cost \$1 to unlock plus 15 cents per minute to ride. People meeting certain income requirements may be eligible for discounts up to 50%. To sign up for these discounted rates, contact Spin and provide proof of enrollment in a city, state or federally funded program such as SNAP EBT, TANF, WIC, and HUD Housing Choice Section 8 vouchers. For Spin Access, visit the [program's web site](#) or call 1-888-262-5189.

Don't have a credit or debit card? Spin assists customers without bank accounts in obtaining reloadable debit/credit cards.

COVID-19 Precautions

New transportation services like these are important as we seek ways to support residents and visitors through the pandemic. Spin is taking precautions to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with CDC guidelines and best practices including:

- Employees disinfect high-contact areas on the vehicles such as hand grips, brake levers, bells, etc. throughout the day;
- They also disinfect scooters at all major points of contact during repairs or charging;
- Workers wash their hands with disinfectant soap for 20+ seconds before and at the end of each shift and throughout the day;
- Employees use hand wipes and/or hand sanitizer to clean their hands when working in the field;
- Staff wear masks at local service facilities and in the field.

Find out more information about this pilot, visit at www.grandrapidsmi.gov/sharedmobility or call 311.