

AGENDA



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK

Advisory

Members:

Christopher Billmeier • Christine Carson • Laurie Craft • Daniel Drent • Latesha Lipscomb • Rose Martinez White • Kelli Jo Peltier • Jonathan Shotwell • Arianna Skentzos • Neil Sly • Kathy Steindler • Eddie Tadlock • Jim Talen • Mark Tangen • Anwar Thomas •

June 3, 2021

11:30pm- 1:00pm

[Microsoft Teams](#)

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Video Minutes
3. DNN Member Mystery Event tonight at 5:15pm
4. City of Grand Rapids boards and commissions
5. DNN events calendar brainstorm
6. HDNA update
7. DNN Streets
 - a. Motorcycle convo with GRPD
 - b. Volunteering
8. DNN Advisory member discussion
9. Public comment
10. Next meeting on July 1, 2021
11. Adjournment

Kelli Jo Peltier
Kelli Jo Peltier
Kelli Jo Peltier

Kelli Jo Peltier
Kelli Jo Peltier

July Meeting Agenda items:

- DGRI funding background
- DNN Website update
- South Division Avenue tour

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



DRAFT MINUTES



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK

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May 6, 2021

[Microsoft Teams](#)

Attendance:

Members Present: Arianna Skentzos, Christine Carson, Daniel Drent, Kathy Steindler, Mark Tangen, Kelli Jo Peltier, Eddie Tadlock, Jonathan Shotwell, Laurie Craft, Neil Sly, Rose Martinez White, Jim Talen, Latesha Lipscomb and Anwar Thomas.

Members Absent: Christopher Billmeier.

Others Present: Corey Mathein, Marion Bonneaux, Melvin Eledge, Mandy McDaniel, Amanda Sloan, Samantha Suarez, and Annamarie Buller (DGRI Staff).

Meeting Summary:

01:27 Call to order

Kelli Jo Peltier called the meeting to order at 11:31 am.

01:40 Introductions

Members were asked to introduce themselves and what they thought was the biggest issue Downtown.

18:50 Approval of [Meeting](#) Summary for April

Laurie Craft, supported by Neil Sly, motioned to approve April 2021 Video Recording. None opposed. Motion passed.

19:40 Budget Plan Fiscal Year 2022

Ms. Buller presented the fiscal year 2022 budget schedule, pending final approval by City Commission on May 20, 2021. Also presented were updates on current and upcoming projects.

45:55 DNN Website Review

Ms. Buller encouraged members to review, and test drive the DNN Website (www.dnngr.org) and provide feedback before the website is promoted.

DRAFT MINUTES



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54:22 DNN Volunteer Opportunities

Ms. Buller presented two volunteer opportunities to DNN members, including a website working group and a safety study working group. Please email Kelli Jo Peltier or Annamarie Buller if you would like to join.

1:00:51 DNN Member Discussion

1:10:22 Public Comment

1:18:40 Meeting Adjourned

DNN Member Mystery Event Series

What is it?

Mystery events are organized by DNN Chair, Kelli Jo Peltier for DNN Advisory Members (and a guest) and DGRI Staff (and a guest) to connect and socialize. We want you to get to know each other and have time for conversation and to learn from each other.

Why is it a mystery?

Kelli Jo will be allowed to make alterations and changes until the week of the event and programming will be a surprise.

How can I best prepare for the Mystery Events?

- Wear comfortable shoes, prepare to be outdoors in whatever weather Michigan throws at us.
- Bring your wallet and ID. Some snacks will be available. You are on your own for beverages.
- Plan to make an effort to talk to someone you don't know or maybe haven't met yet.

When are they?

The evening of our meeting dates for 2021 and 2022:

- June 3, 2021 at 5:15pm- 7:15pm
- September 2, 2021
- April 7, 2022
- June 2, 2022

Where to meet?

Location will change and will be shared as part of the DNN Advisory Agenda

June 3, 2021 meet at the AC Hotel by Marriot parking lot on the corner of Monroe and Louis

Can I bring someone?

Sure, bring a friend or partner along with you.

Questions or last-minute changes?

Mandy McDaniel, DGRI Staff 231-327-9160

Kelli Jo Peltier, DNN Advisory Chair 616-550-6771

Communications & Marketing

Events

Engagement

						Implementation Timeline												
Line Item Name	GR Forward Goal	Lead	Support	BUDGET	Spending Timing	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	
DNN Book Club	2	Staff	DNN	\$700.00	Fall 2021													
Support of Near Neighborhood Associations (National Night Out, Clean Up Events, Annual Membership)																		
DNN Training	2	Staff	DNN	\$10,000.00	Winter 2022													
Total				\$12,700.00														
				\$49,100.00														

DRAFT Safe & Vital Streets Agenda Downtown Neighbor Network

- Improve data collection and transparency to help identify solutions that make streets safe for all
 - Mobile GR has created Vision Zero Dashboard
 - [City Health Dashboard](#)
 - [Grand Valley Metro Council](#)
 - GRPD
 - [Michigan Office of Highway Safety](#)
- Ramp up investment in public education efforts to promote a culture of safe streets
 - [Driving Change](#)
 - [Heads Up GR](#)
- Redesign select streets to calm traffic, promote non-motorized mobility, and protect lives
 - Market Street (road diet coming)
 - Michigan/Bridge (potential road diet)
 - Fulton west of Division
- Make Street Crossings Safer
 - Monroe and Louis (No turn on red, eliminate turn lane)
 - Monroe and Campau crosswalk (enhance crosswalk and add pedestrian refuge)
 - Campau crossing to the Blue Bridge (add crosswalk)
 - Riverwalk crossing enhancement over Fulton (add crosswalk, road diet, or bus-only lane) address after Market Trunk Line improvements and 201 Market plans more firm)
 - VanAndel Arena (West Fulton and Ottawa)
 - Studio Park (Oakes and Cherry Street)
 - Cherry Street near Central Station (enhance crosswalk)
 - DeVos Convention Center on Monroe (enhance crosswalk)
 - Fulton Street west of Division (Louis near GRPD)
- Build Belknap Hill and River Connection
 - Rehabilitate and strengthen non-motorized connection from Belknap to Monroe North neighborhoods
 - North Division (reinforce bike lane and crossings, potential for refuge islands)
 - Issue RFQ for Design in Summer of 2021
 - Create phased plan for improvements to be incorporated in multiple budget cycles
- Develop a protocol to incentivize swift removal of construction signage upon project completion.
- Establish a Walkability Assessment Tool to guide practitioners and decision-makers in new construction projects. Work in concert with Common Notice and Disability Advocates.
- Set safer speed limits.
 - The immediate priority is to support state policy efforts that strengthen local flexibility to set speed limits.
- Strengthen law and local practice to eliminate distracted driving.
 - Begin to collect data at key intersections, distraction is beyond phones
 - Establish “hands-free” law in MI, GR
 - Establish local enforcement campaign(s)
- Evaluate enforcement priorities and capacity and make recommendations to better align with community goals.
 - Speeding, crosswalks, distracted driving, etc
 - Automated enforcement supports safety, equity, and vibrancy goals but requires state authority