

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 are 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 asloan@downtowngr.org. Thank you!

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 •

March 4, 2021

11:30pm- 1:00pm

[Microsoft Teams](#)

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Introductions- Name, Building, Employer, Title | |
| 2. | February Listening Session Update | Daniel Drent/ Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 3. | Heartside Downtown Neighborhood Association Update | Daniel Drent/ Latesha Lipscomb |
| 4. | DNN Events | |
| | • World of Winter 2021 | Annamarie Buller |
| | • Bring ideas for a resident event for 2022 as part of WOW | |
| | • Remaining programming for March | |
| | • Virtual Mix, Mingle and Share 2021? | |
| | • DNN Website Launch? | |
| | • Do some form of outreach/ mailing? | |
| | • DNN Education | |
| | • Book Club on Right of Way completed on 2/24 | |
| | • Interest in summer book club? | |
| | • Undoing Racism training April | |
| 5. | DNN Website Update | Annamarie Buller |
| 6. | Budget Planning Fiscal Year 2022 | Annamarie Buller |
| 7. | Public Comment | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 8. | DNN Member Discussion | Kelli Jo Peltier |

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



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Potential March meeting content:

9. Next meeting on April 1, 2021
10. Adjournment

Agenda Items for April

Park Improvements Presentation
Homeless Outreach Updates
Safer Streets Agenda Progress

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



GOAL 2 ALLIANCE

Create a True Downtown Neighborhood that is Home to a Diverse Population

FY21 Projects for Goal 2 Alliance

This is a list of projects and initiatives prioritized for the budget items for Fiscal Year 2021 which runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The brief descriptions are not meant to be all encompassing but rather to serve as a high level overview of the particular project.

HEARTSIDE QUALITY OF LIFE IMPLEMENTATION

HQL: Resident Trainings

- MSU Citizen Planner (MSU and City of Grand Rapids)
- Mental Health First Aid training (Mental Health Foundation/ Dwelling Place)
- Rent this Way Training (Housing Commission)
- Action Planning for Community Change (DGRI/ Dwelling Place)

HQL: Pekich Park Gardening (Dwelling Place Partnership)

HQL: Incentivize Local Farmers Markets

- Heartside Gleaning Initiative Partnership
- YMCA Veggie Van Partnership
- Coordination of bi-monthly Summer Farmers Market (July, August, September)

HQL: Heartside Restrooms Annual Expenses- Collab Goal 5

HQL: Heartside/ Downtown Walking Tour Series

HQL: Employment Program for DT Residents

HQL: Lighting Improvements? South Division and all side streets? City has fund for side streets completed after this summer.

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK

Communications and marketing, continuing to build and evolve the DNN brand

- Staff DNN operational support, meetings etc.
- Build stand alone DNN website
- Newsletter and social media
- DNN brand boosts and development

Quarterly major events to build the network and share information

- Winter DNN holiday gathering
- Spring Mix, Mingle and Share
- Community & Conversations on relevant Downtown resident topics

Continued education of our residents (funded through HQL)

Engagement focus for 2021

1. Build agenda for action and coalition around pedestrian safety improvements (more below)
2. Make Downtown more welcoming

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS collaboration with DNN & Goal 3 Alliance

- Bring in a nationally acclaimed speaker on pedestrian safety
- Research on best practice internationally as well as local statistics
- Building coalition to decide top 6-8 things we would pilot to improve safety Downtown

DOWNTOWN MARKETING

Invest in marketing Downtown amenities, businesses etc to Downtown residents working in collaboration with Downtown Neighbor Network

DOWNTOWN RESEARCH

Focus groups on Downtown resident survey (2019)

Better understand Downtown community with a general fund for research