



MINUTES

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Village Green Municipal Building
Council Chambers
47 Hall Street
May 5, 2021
6:30 p.m.

The meeting began at 6:32 p.m. Those present included:

Committee Members: Brian Lorenz, Chairman; Heather Karr & Melissa Riggins, Councilmembers; Andrew White, City Manager; Jeffrey Tyler, Community Development Director; Claudia Husak, Planning Director; and Donald J. DePalma, Citizen Representative. Shawn Boysko, P&Z Representative, and David Lester, Citizen Representative, were absent.

Staff/Others: Megan Canavan, Assistant City Manager; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk; Steve Hrytzik, Chief of Police; and other interested parties.

Approval of the Minutes: Melissa had one correction to the minutes. The minutes of April 6, 2021 were approved as revised.

Today's Business:

- a. **Downtown Parking Update:** Jeff presented some possible preliminary solutions/suggestions to help mitigate parking in the downtown. Jeff reviewed the 2017 traffic study and while he felt it was good for a baseline, he also believes that due to its age and that it did not detail other trip factors, it would be of limited value on this matter. He identified two broad solutions: (1) supply more parking to meet the demand and (2) moving as many of the vehicles out of the interior of the downtown area to other locations to relieve the stress on parking in town.

With respect to Item (2), preliminary solutions/suggestions include:

- (a) a comprehensive valet solution;
- (b) ECT Pedicab for special events and as an alternative transportation method;
- (c) Uber;
- (d) shared parking agreements;
- (e) public parking, upkeep and maintenance program;
- (f) bicycle-friendly access; and
- (g) having a parking summit with the downtown businesses.

Elton Sargent, Prohibition, 21 W. Olentangy St., and Erik Berkman, 80 Morris Ct., spoke generally in favor of these potential parking suggestions, particularly the parking summit.

ACTION PLAN: The committee gave a thumbs up on having a parking summit as well as to pilot the suggested items this year to see how they work. Jeff will report on his findings later in the year.

- b. **Potential Zoning Code Updates:**
 - i. **Board of Zoning Appeals Regulations.** Claudia intends to review and update the meeting procedures and Code relating to HDAC and BZA in an effort to update and streamline it better. One issue that has come up is the difficulty of having the applicant speak prior to staff presentation which can cause confusion. She will review her proposed changes with HDAC & BZA, and ask them to consider and vote on it. She will also schedule some training for BZA in early June. Claudia will come back and update the Committee as to her progress.

Adjournment - Having no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. The next meeting will be June 1, 2021.