

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP  
PLANNING AND DESIGN COMMITTEE  
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office  
23 Royce Circle  
5 pm**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2017**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Members: Chair Steve Bacon, Paul Aho, Karla Fox, Chris Kueffner, Peter Millman, Greg Padick, and Betsy Paterson

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

**1. Call to Order**

Steve Bacon called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2016 and September 20, 2016**

Betsy Paterson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2016. Peter Millman seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Ms. Paterson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 20, 2016. Mr. Millman seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**4. Update and Review of Storrs Center Public Spaces Study Implementation Plan**

Mr. Bacon said he and Ms. van Zelm met with representatives of the private properties in Storrs Center (Daryl Krivanec with Hart Realty Advisers, Matt Joyce with The Wilder Companies, Katie DeLany and Lisa Hale-Meindl with the Oaks on the Square, and Lou Marquet with LeylandAlliance) to discuss the implementation of the Storrs Center Public Spaces Study.

While the owners endorsed the recommended improvements, some were concerned about the costs, particularly maintenance costs (were not estimated in the Study), and liability related to increased potential structures on their property (columns, planters, etc.)

Greg Padick suggested looking into how Blue Back Square has dealt with liability issues.

Mr. Bacon said Mr. Joyce and Mr. Marquet suggested looking at some “low hanging fruit” that may be less expensive and complex – but would improve the public areas.

To assist with design and maintenance, Karla Fox suggesting working with UConn’s School of Fine Arts. Paul Aho suggested talking to the Vo Ag program at E.O. Smith High School and E.O. Smith’s Community Service program.

Greg Padick suggested seeing if surrounding private property owners (Main Street Homes, Courtyard Condos) might be willing to help with upkeep.

Ms. Paterson will follow-up with Mansfield's state legislators on funding opportunities.

Cynthia van Zelm will follow-up with her downtown colleagues to see how they have funded their similar projects.

Mr. Millman suggested also looking at assistance for funding from some of the larger businesses in the downtown. Mr. Padick suggested the Partnership general membership may be willing to help as well.

Ms. van Zelm will plan to provide updates for the Committee at its February meeting but, if not, look at an update at the March meeting.

Ms. van Zelm will e-mail Committee members to see if they want to join her at a planning meeting with Town, UConn and Oaks staff to look at costs.

The Committee also talked about putting together a working or advisory group to work with Ms. van Zelm once the Committee sunsets.

## **5. Update on Storrs Center**

Ms. van Zelm gave a brief update on Storrs Center, including that CME will be opening any day and that Tang Barbecue and Grille 86 are scheduled to open in February.

She said three condos are left in Main Street Homes to sell.

## **6. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

*Minutes prepared by Cynthia van Zelm.*