

TOWN OF SILER CITY

The Siler City Downtown Advisory Committee met in Regular Session on **Tuesday, November 26, 2019** at 6:00pm in City Hall Courtroom with Chair Adams presiding.

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jackie Adams, Tim Booras, Jason Hoyle, Loretta Kivett, Richard Szary, Cecil Wilson

DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Denis de St. Aubin Jr., Wren Farrar

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Planning Director Jack Meadows, and Permit Specialist Justin Bridges

CONSENT

A motion was made by Szary to approve the October 22, 2019 minutes, seconded by Booras, unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

Chuck Halsall with the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center spoke about and answered questions concerning how NC Main Street Downtown Associate Community Program operates, and its networking benefits to each community that becomes an associate town. Bruce Naegelen with the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center also spoke to the committee and offered his support and desire to see increased organization and new partnerships developed. DAC Program: competitive application process (Spring 2021/2022), \$350 annual membership with National Main Street Center, 20 hour per week Downtown Manager (paid or volunteer), eligible for Main Street designation after 3 years.

OLD BUSINESS

- a) 2019 Priority List of Recommendations
 - i. Eliminate rolling garbage carts where Town dumpsters are available: The Town Board needs to know the distance from front/back door to dumpsters, and wants to poll the businesses that would lose the rolling garbage carts.
 - ii. Initiate UDO Amendment to remove storage as a permissible use within the Central Business (C-C) and General-Commercial (G-C) zoning districts: The Town Board wants to know what are some examples that are potential problems downtown that Meadows can share with them. Amortize or new only? It was discussed that this would be an amendment for new businesses' only. Meadows will bring back to the committee suggested draft language on the UDO Amendment.
 - iii. Adopt commercial maintenance code within Downtown: The Downtown Commercial Maintenance Code is ready to be considered. The committee was encouraged to read the Code and to discuss the draft further at the next meeting. When the committee is ready to recommend the Downtown Commercial Maintenance Code, Meadows will present it to the Town Board.
 - iv. Request NCDOT remove left hand turn restriction at intersections of Chatham Avenue and Raleigh St. The Town Board has several questions: Can a turning lane be installed? It was noted that a turn lane can be installed but that some on street parking would be lost. It was also noted that if no turning lane is implemented, no on street parking would be lost. Will traffic stack up and will delays be increased? Most likely and we expect delay would be increased. What are NCDOT thoughts on the left turn restrictions? It would probably help to

meet the traffic needs. Meadows shared recent email communications with NCDOT concerning on street parking, a traffic study, and left-hand turn lanes. When the committee is ready, the item can be presented to the Town Board again.

- b) 2020 Priority List of Recommendations (due October 2020)
- i. Streetscape Plan for Chatham Avenue: Hoyle reported that he has contacted NC State, NC Central, and Wake Tech. He noted that he has called and emailed the department head and secretaries at NC State for two weeks without any replies to date. He mentioned a similar scenario with NC Central and Wake Tech in not yet receiving any replies. Hoyle noted that NC State is a desirable contact because of the certificates they have in City Design and Design in Intergenerational Landscape. Hoyle noted that he will continue his efforts to make contact.
 - ii. Sidewalk repair on Chatham Avenue: Booras reported that Chris McCorquodale is meeting with a sidewalk contractor on December 3rd to prioritize the repairs and schedule the start of the repairs.
 - iii. NC Main Street Community: It was discussed that this would not be a 2020 recommendation, the timeline for the application, and that this is a possibility for the future. However, the committee agreed to utilize Bruce Naegelen with NC Main Street, and Meadows mentioned that he will be communicating with us on a monthly basis.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Downtown Park: Committee agreed to discuss again at the January 28th meeting. Meadows mentioned his communication with Joseph Keele that currently, the Master Plan of the Bray Park Sports Complex is the Siler City Parks and Recreations new park expansion focus. It was noted that the Town Board was not going to consider parks at new locations until a new comprehensive plan is completed, and Parks and Recreation staff is able to take on new projects. Bray Park is the focus of any current new park expansion.

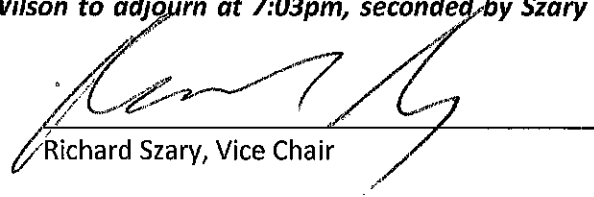
FUTURE BUSINESS

Meeting Calendar 2019: No meeting in December.

Meeting Calendar 2020: Downtown Advisory Committee meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. for the calendar year of 2020. This tentative schedule should be approved at the Town Board meeting on Monday, December 2nd and is as follows: January 28, February 18, March 31, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business a motion was made by Wilson to adjourn at 7:03pm, seconded by Szary & unanimously approved.


Richard Szary, Vice Chair

ATTEST:


Justin Bridges, Permit Specialist