

**TOWN OF SILER CITY**

The Siler City Downtown Advisory Committee met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5:37 pm via remote electronic meeting conducted by simultaneous communication via Zoom with Chair Szary presiding. Szary read the mission statement.

**DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Denis de St. Aubin Jr., Tim Booras, Wren Farrar, Bill Horner, Richard Szary, Cecil Wilson,

**DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Loretta Kivett, Sam Testerman, Jason Hoyle

**TOWN STAFF PRESENT:** Planning Director Jack Meadows, Permit Specialist Kimberly Pickard, Planner I Dalton York.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Farrar to approve the agenda, seconded by Booras & unanimously approved.*

**CONSENT**

*A motion was made by Booras to approve the November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes, seconded by Wilson, & unanimously approved.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

- a) **City Hall Landscape Plan**  
Chris Hart with CCHS provided York with a landscape plan and proposal. Booras does not like the idea of annuals, recommended looking at different plants that would require less maintenance and not be unattractive after 45 days. de St. Aubin agreed to look at different plant options. Meadows has to look at Landscape Account to determine the funds need to maintain the plantings proposed.
- b) **Duke Energy Silver Poles**  
Duke Energy stated per email to York that the Silver Power Poles in Downtown could no longer be painted, ie: lead paint etc, the next option is replacement. This cost would have to be part of the Master Plan.
- c) **Relocate Shopping Dispensers**  
York identified six dispensers. It was recommended to move dispensers to another location near the Post Office. Bill Horner checked dispensers during the meeting and observed that the dispensers appeared to be empty and no longer being used, he referred York to contact the Owners and Post Master, Horner also stated there are certain laws that govern "news being made to public" he would again consult with his colleagues to find out this information.
- d) **Funding Subcommittee (Bonds, Municipal Service District (MSD))**  
Szary seeks further research on how to obtain certain funds, bonds and grants- would like time to research. Booras and Farrar will form a subcommittee and seek assistance from York and Town Finance staff.
- e) **Town Budget Process Update**  
Staff was recommended to send the Downtown Plan and Parking Study support letter to the Town Board Meadows recommended board members should create letters/recommendations for the year. Budget process dates have been pushed up due to the Town Manager Roy Lynch leaving.

- f) **Advocacy for other cost items**  
Meadows discusses how typically Every five years master plans should be update, a master plan study can cost between \$65,000-\$75,000. Meadows recommended \$99,000 for a study of public space and parking study combined.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a) **New Recommendation Ideas:**
- 1) **Visual Assessment-** [https://www.silercity.org/index.asp?SEC=CD207A47-3De\(-400D-B100-080B8669FDD4](https://www.silercity.org/index.asp?SEC=CD207A47-3De(-400D-B100-080B8669FDD4)
  - 2) **Plans (Strategic, Land Development, Master)-**  
<https://www.silercity.org/index.asp?SEC=28A33248-3C41-4E34-9D0E-E93B7F7147A9>

#### REPORTS

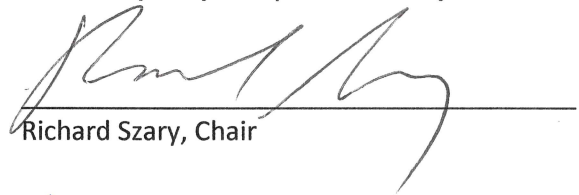
- a) January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting summary
- b) Committee Roster  
Kivett term is up for renewal, Szary and Hoyle terms will expire, Cecil Wilson questions possibility of Szary remaining on the Board, Meadows stated the resolution would have to be amended to allow Szary's term to be extended.
- c) Siler City Merchants Association  
Re-do the purpose of the website and social media pages, York to continue to work with marketing efforts.
- d) Siler City Development Organization  
New upgrades to the Town of Siler City Water Treatment plant will allow the town to handle more. Currently at 4m with upgrades will increase to 6m. Booras stated we must have sewer in order to grow.
- e) E. Beaver Street Study  
Lisa will have a draft ready to present at next Board meeting.
- f) Trash Receptacles  
New receptacles have been placed around Downtown; a discussion was held concerning when the old ones would be removed. Staff will consult the public works director Chris McCorquodale.
- g) Marketing Downtown  
Need individual to take over the Downtown Siler City Facebook page, insure it will be properly updated. Farrar mentioned that he heard a "rumor" that the Hotel Hadley could be in the process of becoming a "hotel" again. Wilson thinks there could be an offer on the table for the Budd Tire Building.
- h) Main St. Conference  
Will be held virtually March 18, Wilson, Szary, Meadows, and York will be attending.
- i) Historic Preservation education campaign  
The workshop via zoom March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022.
- j) Second Ave Corridor Study  
Stanteck has been hired; full studies will be completed; the study will require strong public input.
- k) UNC SOG DFI highest and best use analysis (Budd Tire, Belk Building, Hotel Hadley, 100 S. Chatham Ave 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)
- l) USDA RBDG Application  
The Planning Department seeks letters to submit an application for the Rural Business Development Grant from USDA to assist with a Downtown Master Plan.

**FUTURE BUSINESS**

- a) July 2022 Presentation of No Cost items
- b) July 2022 Officer Election
- c) August 2022 Finalize draft list of priorities
- d) September 2022 Public Input Session
- e) October 2022 Prioritize list of priorities
- f) November 2022 Approve presentation and 2023 calendar

**ADJOURNMENT**

*With no further business a motion was made to adjourn at 7:08 pm by Szary, seconded by Wilson and unanimously approved.*

  
Richard Szary, Chair

**ATTEST:**

  
Kimberly Pickard, Permit Specialist

