

**Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2018
City Council Workroom / City Hall, 301 E. Huron St. 7:00 pm**

Members Present: Ray Detter, Peter Honeyman, John Chamberlin, Joan French, Don Duquette

Members Absent: Chaz Stucken, Kathleen Nolan, Hugh Sonk, Nate Stevens

Guests Present: Steve Kwasny, Susan Pollay, Doug Kelbaugh, Christine Crockett, Jeff Crockett, Andres Snyder, Sr., Andres Snyder, Jr.

Last night, as a preliminary to a full agenda, CAC members and guests discussed our position on several important downtown parking policies. Some conclusions: Current rates are not excessive and should continue to be adjusted upward to meet the required needs of a well-run system. Parking fines should be coordinated with rising parking rates so that getting a ticket is not an easy means of ignoring the parking system. If there is a good way of identifying downtown parking patrons, we should forgive first ticket violations and raise fines on repeated offenders. Also, those present last night seemed almost unanimous in supporting extending our street-metered hours from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This should be combined with continued experimentation with ways of providing downtown evening workers with free (or free-er) parking spaces in less used portions of parking structures.

The remainder of last night's CAC meeting was devoted to consideration of the relationship of parking, traffic, residential and commercial development and transportation issues in near- downtown neighborhoods. Although we discussed City Council passage of the 620 unit residential development at 1144 Broadway it included consideration of the need for a better Lower Town neighborhood residential parking system. Consideration of UM's plan to construct a 1,000 auto parking structure on Maiden Lane was directly related to the possibility of a Fuller Road railroad depot. That possibility was clearly related to UM's recent revival of interest in paying for a downtown transit connector. Of course, it is no coincidence that the City Council unanimously approved the Glen Street Hotel PUD on December 18 at the same time that it agreed to possible significant changes in the transit and residential parking patterns in the Old Fourth Ward—and also the possibility of the future widening of Glen Street. No coincidence! And then—three days later on December 21—a very private meeting among owners and architects of The Graduate Hotel and four representatives of the Old Fourth Ward to discuss the possibility of adding a restaurant to the roof of what was once the former Campus Inn. Parking needs, of course, were a part of the discussion. Welcome to the New Year! Let's see what it brings!