

**Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2017
City Council Workroom / City Hall, 301 E. Huron St. 7:00 pm**

Members Present: Ray Detter, Don Duquette, Peter Honeyman, Joan French
Visitors Present: Amber Miller, Bob Doyle, LizRolla, Ilene Tyler, Alan Haber,
Steve Kaplan, Susan Pollay, Chuck Bultman, Christine Crockett
Members Absent: John Chamberlin, Nate Stevens, Kathleen Nolan, Hugh Sonk, Chaz Stucken

The Citizens Advisory Council and guests met for an hour with Amber Miller and other DDA representatives to discuss the future design of Kerrytown's N. Fifth and Detroit Street intersection. We are impressed with how much thought and work has been devoted to transforming this important, but unsafe and unattractive location, into an admirable downtown community asset. We look forward to its completion and we are eager to join others in following the DDA's leadership in transforming Huron Street and improving State South State in the next few years.

In the last month, CAC members joined many others in public meetings held in relation to The Jefferson residential development on W. Jefferson and S. Ashley, the Allen Creek Greenway, and the proposed residential development in Lower Town at Broadway and Maiden Lane. Each of these projects, although one is outside the DDA boundaries, and one covers an area much broader than the downtown, may provide important but varied contributions to the future design and success of Ann Arbor's Central area. On Broadway, the changing of a blighted, contaminated 6.4 acre site within walking distance to Main Street into a mixed use residential and commercial property with hundreds of rental and for sale units is important in developing a better future for our downtown and nearby neighborhoods.

The Library Block was discussed. Alan Haber spoke eloquently for a public gathering space on Library Block. Someone else pointed out that recently 11,000 people assembled, marched, and protested in Ann Arbor's streets and the UM Diag without using the Library Block. The discussion then moved to our relation to the Library Block.

The CAC supported the building of the underground parking structure and we have always had the goal of supporting the best development possible on the site. We recognize that the City has not done an outstanding job defining what that would be. But last night we agreed that we should support the DDA Operations Committee recommendation :“Whereas, the Operations Committee recommends that the DDA approve a resolution communicating that the DDA “can and will” instead of “could”implement this request if City Council resolves to approve the project.”