

Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes —July 7, 2015
City Council Work Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall 7:00 pm

Members Present: Ray Detter, John Chamberlin

Members Absent: Marsha Chamberlin, Sue Kern, Jim Kern, Joan French, Hugh Sonk,
Kathleen Nolan

Visitors Present: Ellen Ramsburgh, Ann Schriber, Jeff Crockett, John Nystuen,
Gwen Nystuen, Eppie Potts, Mary Hathaway, Chris Crockett
Ilene Tyler, Steve Kaplan, Dorothy Nordness

An invitation was sent out to Downtown and Near Downtown Residential Neighbors to attend this July 7 meeting of the Citizens Advisory Council to discuss proposed amendments to Downtown Zoning that will be voted on by City Council at their July 20th. Meeting. An edited version of the comments I made to the Ann Arbor DDA at their July 1 meeting was also included in the invitation.

DOWNTOWN AND NEAR DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORS:

The Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council will meet at 7:00 pm. next Tuesday night, July 7, in the City Council Workroom.

There will be one topic for our meeting--Discussion of the proposed amendments to Downtown Zoning that we have been working to change for more than the last three years. Those amendments will be voted on by City Council at its July 20 meeting.

Because City staff sent out inaccurate information about these ordinance changes for its June 15 public hearings on these amendments, a vote on the changes was postponed until the City Council meeting of July 20, 7:00 pm. You need to be there to present your position on the issues. Only a couple of us spoke at the June 15 hearing. We need your input at the July 20th City Council meeting. Your attendance at the Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council meeting next Tuesday, July 7, will give us all a chance to review our positions and allow discussion of points of view you may wish to discuss before City Council.

Yes, this includes reduction in height of buildings on East Huron from 150 feet to 120 feet and the adding of diagonal requirements and specific setbacks that will lessen their negative impact upon the historic and residential neighborhood to the north.

It also includes changes in zoning of the property at 336 East Ann Street and the reduction in height of any future building constructed across the street from the Armory residences on East Ann.

All of us should make an effort to be at the Downtown Citizens Advisory Council meeting next Tuesday as well as the City Council meeting on Monday, July 20th to urge approval of the changes we support. Please encourage others to attend these meetings as well--particularly the City Council meeting on July 20. If you live in Sloan Plaza, the Armory, the Old Fourth Ward, the downtown, or any near downtown neighborhood, tell your neighbors about the importance of attending and speaking at these meetings.

The changes will be discussed in two consecutive public hearings near the beginning of the City Council meeting on July 20th. You can speak at both public hearings to advocate your position and the importance of passage of these zoning changes.

I hope to see you at next Tuesday night's Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council meeting as well as the City Council meeting of July 20. Put them on your calendar. This is of great importance to the future of the downtown and nearby neighborhoods.

If you can't attend the July 20th City Council meeting, send them a letter.

Ray

The meeting also included a discussion of the possible developments that might be approved by the City of Ann Arbor for the Library Lot as well as the ways in which those proposed developments might, or might not, agree with the "Principles Essential in the Future Development of the Library Lot" that were adopted by the CAC over two years ago.