

Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Minutes for April 2, 2019

Members Present: Ray Detter, Carolyn Arcure, Hugh Sonk, Don Duquette, John Chamberlin, Peter Honeyman, John Splitt

Members Absent: Joan French, Chaz Stucken, Kathleen Nolan

Guests Present: John Kotarski, Christine Crockett, Jeff Crockett, Julie Ritter, Joe Arcure, Chuck Bultman

Guests: Susan Pollay, Pat Mortz, Joe Arcure, Alan Haber

Last night the Downtown Area CAC had the benefit of an excellent hour-long presentation, question, and answer discussion with Susan Pollay on People-Friendly Streets "Huron & William Street Projects Updates". We covered pedestrian and transit Safety Improvements on both William and Huron (left turns and right turns), refinements & experimentation in the William Street bikeway design (planters and/or bollards) and possible work schedules.

In the last few years the CAC was pleased to be invited to participate in discussions involving the streets and walkways of both South University and the Fifth and Detroit area of Kerrytown--now getting close to completion. This Friday some of us are meeting Maura to select the best re-location of the Glass frame, "Lumber and Agriculture"—the Farmers Market location.

Last night our discussion of East Huron included the block between North Division and State. We need to start talking about problems that exist now in that area. Parked and standing vehicles often block traffic in the west and east bound lanes. The crosswalk at Thayer is a dangerous threat to pedestrians. The future construction of a hotel on Glen between Catherine and East Ann is bound to have a significant impact upon traffic patterns all along East Huron. We need to begin talking--now about these possible future impacts not when we get done with Huron west of Division. Let's also consider neighborhood traffic and pedestrian patterns in the Old Fourth Ward—particularly with the possible construction of a twenty-story building on East Washington and South State.

The remaining half an hour of our CAC meeting was given over to a rather scattered discussion of future affordable housing possibilities. We adjourned at 8:30 pm. with a packet full of affordable housing items for discussion next month.

Following our meeting, a few of us moved upstairs to City Council Chambers to hear the Planning Commission discussion of development of the former DTE site on Broadway. There is a growing awareness that development of that site will have a future impact (perhaps beneficial) on the "downtown" DDA area.