Downtown Citizens' Advisory Council Minutes November 1, 2022

Members present-

Don Duquette John Chamberlin Carolyn Arcure Angela Peat John Splitt

Presenting guests-

Michael Rein- U of M Government Relations Frances Todoro- Hargreaves- Executive Director, State Street District Association

The meeting opened with informal discussions about the issues of motor vehicle idling and recent problems with individuals who are making downtown feel unsafe for some of us. We talked about the idling issue as something that affects everyone's quality of life, not just those downtown. Rather than approaching this through enforcement it was suggested that the first steps be through education. We then discussed recent issues involving individuals in the downtown who are acting in an aggressive manner towards others. Frances was asked questions about this, both in her role as State Street ED and as a Chair of the Police Oversight Commission. She gave us information about the new Supportive Connections Deflection Program. The committee will continue to follow this issue.

Michael Rein then gave us a rundown on city/ UM relations. He let us know about several capital improvement projects that the two are working on together. Committee members asked questions about the university's enrollment increases, plans for future student housing, mass transit expansion, carbon neutrality, as well as other topics. He assured us that the university considers itself to be an urban university and wants to continue to keep us informed as much as possible about its plans.