

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

April 11, 2024

The April 11, 2024 Downtown Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Tom Karcher, Chairperson. Downtown Committee members present were Tom Karcher, Marc Mays, Scott Moore, Kate Niederkohr, Jan Stoneburner, and Graham Treadway. Nicole Morris was absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the March 11, 2024 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Downtown Committee member, were approved as received.

Downtown Committee members again discussed Ordinance No. 194-13, creating a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) for downtown Upper Sandusky, as part of the annual review of DORA pursuant to Section 11. of this ordinance. Downtown Committee members noted that no changes to the DORA regulations are recommended.

The following ideas/suggestions were again discussed regarding Food Trucks and Ordinance No. 189-13 addressing regulations for mobile food vendors within the City:

- Mrs. Niederkohr suggested that no changes be made to the current permit fees being charged.
- The possibility of adding a provision to specify that the permit fees collected for food trucks go towards improvements to the downtown at the discretion of the Downtown Committee.
- Mr. Moore indicated that increases and decreases to the permit fees could possibly be based on the willingness of food truck vendors to participate in events.
- Mrs. Stoneburner noted that Mrs. Sue Baker stated at the March 11, 2024 Downtown Committee meeting that the Chamber of Commerce is considering hosting First Thursday events year round.
- The possibility of adding two spaces for food trucks in the downtown was discussed. One space could be in front of A Cut Above Salon located at 213 North Sandusky Avenue on the east side of the street, and one space could be in front of Premier Bank located at 118 South Sandusky Avenue on the west side of the street.
- An amendment to Section 727.03(a) of Ordinance No. 189-13 to have a waiver to allow food trucks to be located within one hundred (100) feet of a brick-and-mortar restaurant under agreement by the restaurant owner was suggested.
- Mayor McColly inquired as to how the Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce picks who gets which space for the First Thursday events. Mrs. Walton indicated that she just started her position as Director and she will be figuring this out.
- Mayor McColly suggested an amendment to Section 727.03(d) where the reference to the "Safety Committee" be changed to the "Downtown Committee".

A motion was made by Mrs. Niederkohr, seconded by Mr. Treadway, to recommend to City Council to approve the following changes to Food Trucks contained in Ordinance No. 189-13:

- Permit fees collected for food trucks go towards improvements to the downtown at the discretion of the Downtown Committee;
- One space in front of A Cut Above Salon located at 213 North Sandusky Avenue on the east side of the street will be added to Exhibit B;
- One space in front of Premier Bank located at 118 South Sandusky Avenue on the west side of the street will be added to Exhibit B;
- A waiver of Section 727.03(a) will be offered to allow food trucks to be located within one hundred (100) feet of a brick-and-mortar restaurant provided the restaurant owner agrees;
- References to the "Safety Committee" as contained in Section 727.03(d) will be changed to the "Downtown Committee".

Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Downtown Committee members again discussed a mission statement and reviewed draft suggestions from Mr. Treadway. Committee members provided their input of the drafts presented by Mr. Treadway. It was decided following the suggestion contained in the next paragraph that a mission statement will be placed on hold until representatives from the entities mentioned have met.

Mrs. Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director, indicated that she would like for the Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce, Wyandot County Economic Development, and the Downtown Committee to collaborate and form a collaborative vision statement and have these entities support each other and begin by coordinating a meeting with representatives from each entity.

Mr. Moore again mentioned the possibility of the Downtown Committee being combined with the Design Review Board and suggested consideration of this be tabled until the collaborative effort suggested by Mrs. Walton is figured out.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Tom Karcher, Chairperson