

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

February 10, 2025

The February 10, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Tom Karcher, Chairperson. Downtown Committee members present were Tom Karcher, Marc Mays, Scott Moore, Nicole Morris, Kate Niederkohr, and Graham Treadway. Zach Morral was absent.

Others present included: Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the January 13, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Downtown Committee member, were approved as received.

Discussion was again held regarding advertising signs in the flower pots in the downtown area, as discussed at the January 13, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting. Downtown Committee members agreed that such advertisements will not be allowed in the flower pots as they take away from the beauty of the downtown.

Mrs. Niederkohr reported that the flowers to be planted in the flower pots in the downtown this year will be a variety of colors, not all pink. In the fall of 2025 the Downtown Committee can give their input on the order for the flowers for 2026.

Mr. Treadway indicated that the details are still being worked out regarding the painting of the exterior brick wall and metal stairs on the north side of the Richardson's Flowers building located at 116 North Sandusky Avenue, which is located to the south and adjoining the north/south alley that will be closed and transformed into a communal seating area with tables and chairs. Mr. Treadway suggested ghost murals be considered in the downtown including the north side of the Richardson's Flowers building. Mrs. Niederkohr suggested that along with the alley closure that two of the parking spaces to be created along North Sandusky Avenue, near the east end of this alley, be designed to accommodate extended vehicle parking. It was noted that a request was received to close the north/south ¼ alley located to the rear of the Municipal Building, 119 North Seventh Street, during the day from February through May, for the demolition of the former Shotzy's Bar and Grille, located in the downtown at 130 North Sandusky Avenue, which was destroyed in a fire on Thursday, June 30, 2022 and this request was approved by the Safety Committee at the February 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting. It was also noted that a suggestion was made to delay the alley closure of the east/west alley located between the buildings located at 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue, from North Sandusky Avenue to the adjoining north/south alley to the west, as this north/south alley is the same alley approved for closure during the day from February through May, until the work to be done in the north/south alley is completed; or until the contractor that will be doing masonry work on the building owned by Mr. Mike Hill, Upper Fire Systems, 120 North Sandusky Avenue, is ready to begin work.

Mr. Mays stated that there is nothing new to report on the speakers proposed for placement in the downtown area.

It was noted that twenty-three (23) orange and black flags, representing the Upper Sandusky Schools colors, are needed for placement in the downtown area that will be hung in addition to the US Flags and Ohio Flags. The Young Professionals and Younger Professionals are potential sponsors of the flags that should cost a total of approximately \$500.00.

It was also noted that the Star Theater is planning to conduct their second annual membership drive in May, and the City should be expecting a formal request for the Star Alley to be closed on Thursdays in May as part of the event.

Mr. Karcher suggested that due to delays in the mail delivery and some members not receiving their mail until after the meetings that members provide their email addresses and information for the Downtown Committee be emailed. Members will be provided with hard copies of the information sent at the meetings.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Tom Karcher, Chairperson