



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

4:00-5:30 p.m.

at

Downtown Dayton Partnership

MINUTES

A meeting of the Downtown Dayton Partnership (DDP) Executive Committee was held Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the office of the Downtown Dayton Partnership, 10 W. Second Street, Suite 611, Dayton, OH 45402. Co-chair Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., and Vice-Chair Jason Woodard presided.

Also in attendance were Ms. Shelley Dickstein, Mr. Peter Haley, Montgomery County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman, Ms. Julie Liss-Katz, Ms. Jenny Michael, Mr. Bob Ruzinsky, and Mr. Sam Warwar. All other Executive Committee members were absent and excused. Ms. Chrisondra Goodwine, J.D., Dayton Public Schools Board President; Dr. David Lawrence, Dayton Public Schools Business Manager; Ms. Karen Wick-Gagnet, Dayton Public Schools Board Representative; and Mr. Tyler Small, Assistant Montgomery County Administrator, also attended. Downtown Dayton Partnership staff members in attendance were Ms. Sandy Gudorf, Ms. Alaina Geres, and Ms. Colleen Turner.

Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., opened the Executive Committee meeting at 4:00 p.m. He made introductions and welcomed all who were present. There was no quorum, so Mr. Mims proceeded with the next order of business.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 2023/2024 Dayton Public Schools (DPS) Transportation Plan

Ms. Gudorf reported there have been significant challenges at Fourth & Jefferson streets over the past year. There have been numerous conversations with many downtown businesses and various different stakeholders regarding these issues. Several months ago, a task force team was formed, and the team had a series of meetings to develop short-term and long-term strategies to address the challenges. The short-term strategies were focused on getting downtown through May to the end of the school year. Ms. Gudorf introduced Dr. David Lawrence, who reported on the strategies DPS is working on for the upcoming school year. Ms. Gudorf also reported that the task force team is slated to meet again in mid-July so there can be a broader conversation as they move into the next school year. Dr. Lawrence reported that a group of stakeholders consisting of DPS, Greater Dayton RTA, City officials, and the Dayton Police had a meeting to discuss developing strategies for the DPS transportation plan, which include:

Short-Term Strategies:

- DPS can be committed to providing security this year. Securing the location would consist of employing School Resource Officers (SROs) from DPS who know the students by their names. The students would gather in an assigned space where they are not with other kids, and DPS will support the students if issues arise, as long as the students are in their assigned space.
- DPS suggested that education of the students is an important component as well. This would involve teaching the kids the rules and protocols required at the hub when getting on and off the RTA buses, and student behavior while on the buses.

Long-Term Strategies:

- DPS suggested having another location for the DPS students somewhere downtown where someone will host them, in order to secure the area for this year. Also suggested was having joint training sessions with RTA supervisors so that DPS, SROs, and RTA can work

together as a unit. Dr. Lawrence said the team has committed to having quarterly meetings to keep everyone updated on the progress. He also reported that the overtime for the SROs is very costly, and DPS needs \$100,000 for the whole school year to have four SROs working every day during the second shift hours to secure the area.

Ms. Gudorf apologized and said the committee was out of time and would have to continue this conversation. Ms. Gudorf highly recommends that when the group meets and is looking at security, there has to be a strategy for the street as well as the platform. She said members of the Executive Committee would be happy to be in that meeting.

- **Courthouse Square (CHS) Update**

Fountain

- Ms. Debbie Lieberman introduced Mr. Tyler Small who gave an update on the CHS fountain. He reported that for several years the fountain has not been working due to the recirculation lines leaking and losing a considerable amount of water. Montgomery County hired a plumbing company to figure out what to do with the fountain. Montgomery County has received feedback that the fountain should remain on Courthouse Square. Montgomery County spent several thousands of dollars investigating how they could fix what was leaking. It was determined that the recirculation lines were leaking into the foundation, and everything would need to be replaced and/or rebuilt. The decision was made to redesign and rebuild the fountain. The fountain will eventually look better than it does now, but it will take time. Currently, there is a PO in place with LWC engineering firm to give the County some proposed concepts for the fountain. Once the County receives the concepts, the commissioners will review and make a final decision. After that, Montgomery County will release a bid. It is likely to be next year before construction starts on the fountain. Mr. Small said the new fountain will become a staple and will be the cornerstone of CHS. Mr. Small entertained any questions.
- Ms. Gudorf mentioned that part of the CHS conversation includes receiving the \$75,000 grant from General Motors, which should be used for cosmetic changes while the team works on the master plan. Project for Public Spaces (PPS) suggested that if the County is going to fix the fountain, the first round of improvements should be to look at how to take advantage of the fountain and connect the Schuster Center with the Third Street side of the Arcade (i.e. the gateway which is the future of Courthouse Square).

Old Courthouse

- Mr. Small reported that the County will be releasing an RFP in July for an event manager for the Old Courthouse. Plans are to neatly fix and repair items on the inside of the building. The event manager will be hired to promote activities in the space. The plan is to hire a person in early September.

Ms. Gudorf said the CHS Task Force will meet to discuss placemaking and other topics concerning the fountain and the gateway.

Memorial Hall

- Mr. Small reported that the county is assessing Memorial Hall and will make repairs to the building. LWC has been hired to look at the building internally to see what needs to be repaired.

- **DORA Update**

Ms. Gudorf reported that the expanded Downtown Dayton DORA kicked off on June 14. The businesses are ecstatic and the program is running very smoothly. Within a five-day period, 30,000 cups were distributed to downtown businesses.

- **Office Space**

- Ms. Gudorf reported that DDP is expecting work from MODA4 regarding the DDP's new office space. The largest cost of this project will be the furniture, but Ms. Gudorf reported that the DDP may be able to get gently used furniture from another downtown business.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Executive Session

There was no quorum, therefore, Executive Session did not occur. The meeting ended at 5:22 p.m.