

**Minutes of Neenah Central City Business Improvement District Board
June 18, 2024 – 7:50 a.m.
Annual District Walking Tour**

PRESENT: Board Members: Alex Wenzel, Bob Gillespie, Robert Wedge, Mark Ellis, Leeann Wasinger, and Christine Rondeau. Also present: Executive Director Brent Bowman (FNI), Assistant Executive Director Sara Hanneman (FNI), Maintenance Coordinator Mike Cannon (FNI) Mayor Jane Lang, Deputy Director Brad Schmidt (City of Neenah Community Development), Director Chris Haese (City of Neenah Community Development), Community Development Specialist Samantha Jefferson (City of Neenah Community Development). Todd Cloutier (Alta), Public Works Rep, Pat Benson (City of Neenah)

Sign Grant Application Requests – Fabric (116 S. Commercial) and Just Dzuricks (214 W. Wisconsin):

The owner of Fabric (116 S. Commercial Street) applied for a sign grant in the amount of \$500. They do not have a sign currently. The owner of Just Dzuricks applied for a sign grant in the amount of \$375 for a sign update.

MSC Ellis/Wedge, the BID Board to approve sign grants for 116 S. Commercial Street (\$500) and 214 W. Wisconsin (\$375). Motion passed.

Annual District Walking Tour:

BID Board members and employees of Future Neenah and the city walked through the district and made note of what is new, changing and what can be improved in the downtown. Some things of note:

- The downtown tree lighting will be discussed by an internal group. In the past, trees were wrapped with lights. This comes with a large time commitment because the lights have to be removed every other year to allow the trees to grow. Another option the group will be reviewing is uplighting. Assistant Executive Director Hanneman encouraged others to send in any ideas that they may have. Member Ellis said Omaha has twinkle lighting and Mayor Lang said the tree up lighting at the new cemetery chapel looks great as an example.
- City staff will reach out to the Information Systems department to inquire about the camera project in the ramp regarding illegal dumping in the garbage corral.
- BID contract with LRS for recycling ends on 12.31.24.
- The district may need additional garbage cans that are claw truck compatible. Public works received a quote for \$4,128 for six.
- The spray paint used by contractors on sidewalks and roads was discussed. This paint seems to last for long periods of time. City staff will talk with the Public Works department to determine if there is another way things could be marked but that the markings wouldn't last so long.
- The group noticed a large amount of truck traffic going through downtown. Staff will discuss with PD.
- Conditions of downtown sidewalks was discussed. City staff will discuss with Public Works. Sidewalks were done on W WI in '23 but not E WI.
- Bird Scooters. The company has decided to temporarily pause service in Neenah/Menasha. The decision as stemming from “the lack of initial support among decision makers in Appleton for a continued program has unfortunately strained our operations and user experience in the area.”
- Noted new string lights and picnic tables in Gateway Park – partnership with FNI and Comm Dev.

- Due to Doty construction, bus stop is now on Church Street across from Presbyterian Church. Bus shelter has been closed due to abuse.
- Hanneman pointed out the directory maps that will be updated at the loop exit and Marketplace bumpout.
- New blue planted pots of flowers have been added to the 100 block bumpout and the Main/WI bumpout near The Plaza.
- Urban Market has installed string lighting for an exterior patio.
- Thanks to Cannon for maintaining dumpster corrals.
- SparkleWash did cans, corrals and Church Street sidewalk on June 10.
- Committee commented favorably on the 'umbrella' alley between FNI and Town Council.
- Committee walked the 200 block alley and commented on the room for improvement in this area specifically in regard to the road surface and rear of buildings.
- We've recently had student volunteer groups in to help with some light maintenance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samantha Jefferson", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Samantha Jefferson
Community Development Specialist, Community Development