

City of Chelsea
Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Visioning Session
Monday 1/30/2023

Present: Jane Pacheco, Rob Mida, Tim Merkel, Stephanie Merkel & Ron Livingood

Others Present – Terris Ahrens – Roy Atkinson – Angela Stoneham – Charles Wiseley - Derik Bollinger

1. Public comment – None
2. Year to date financial report – on track to stay on budget pending completion of audit
 - a. Discussion about line items in the DDA budget
3. Completed Projects Report – Derik Bollinger
 - a. Lot # 1 paving completed – Light poles painted
 - b. Way finding signage on going almost complete
 - c. Refurbishment of city benches is on going and on track
 - d. Exploring recycling bins around downtown – Roy Atkinson
 - i. Chelsea Zero Waste feedback
4. **Visioning Session Conversation (ideas):**
 - a. Adding recycling bins to trash receptacle areas
 - b. Funding building artwork utilizing local artists & organizations
 - c. Additions to Palmer Commons – adding a gazebo with grant money remaining from the initial project and additional grant that the Chelsea Chamber can apply for – present a plan to better utilize this space with more activities
 - i. Additional gates
 - ii. Powered ice rink
 - iii. Extra lights
 - iv. Shipping container concept
 - d. Permanent social district signage
 - e. Additional planter boxes around town including additional funding for the Chelsea Garden Club
 - f. Adding fast charging stations for electrical cars at public lots around town
 - g. Working with Wave to create additional public transportation options around Chelsea – (possible pilot run maybe on Friday and/or Saturday – pair with programming Friday winter night initiative? – Need to think about pick-up locations around town and schedule
 - h. Parking lot maintenance remaining an ongoing line item and focus continually on our budget on a yearly basis (i.e., crack filling – patching potholes)
 - i. Discussion about East parking lot and addition of parking around Chelsea
 - j. Making the alleyways more attractive and restricting entrance for vehicles in these spaces with artwork – putting thought into electrical wiring around town and finding ways to hide it / move it – presenting a professional plan for improvements
 - k. Working with a local bank to consider “loss Loan Reserve” to help local business stay open later and offset costs – potential Friday nights with a winter initiative
 - l. New city Info boards – Looking for new locations that are more visible to people visiting the city – photo backdrops
 - m. Outdoor dining space – Concept of the DDA not providing funds for parklets and outdoor dining areas – creating permanent outdoor areas that will be funded by the actual business owners
 - n. Expanding the sculpture walk to add additional pads and place sculptures permanently – involving the community to vote on what sculptures remain permanent and decide where to add pads – local business sponsorships to offset costs – Grow Sculpture Walk / Concept all the way south to I-94
5. Adjournment