

DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
George Fox University, Cap and Gown Room, Newberg, Oregon 97132
Monday, June 8, 1998 7 pm

Members Present: Julie Codiga, Kristen Horn, Rob Molzahn, David Paul

Members Absent: Donna McCain, William Rosacker, Marty Tucker, Eric Wright

Others Present: Mike Soderquist, Duane Cole, Barton Brierley, Donna Proctor, Roger Hiller, Malcolm Johnstone, Ann Pesola, Jim Morrison, Johann May, Mat Haug

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were not available for approval.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Goal-Setting Process - Brierley

Barton Brierley, City Planner, mentioned that he had completed a list of goals from the brainstorming session at the May 11, 1998 meeting. This list (enclosed) was included in the packet for the committee's review.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- Oregon Downtown Development Association Presentation - Malcolm Johnstone

Malcolm Johnstone reviewed his background, then introduced Roger Hiller and explained that Mr. Hiller was the first president of the McMinnville Downtown Redevelopment Committee. Mr. Hiller has been with the Oregon Economic Development Department (OEDD) for the last four years. Mr. Johnstone showed a slide presentation of different types of downtown options to assist with ideas for Newberg's downtown redevelopment.

A question was asked if the parking issue had been looked at during these redevelopment plans. Duane Cole, City Manager stated there had been several surveys done and parking was not listed as a major concern. The survey results indicated that Newberg has enough parking, however it is not ideally located. Someone asked if the City could purchase old buildings that are not being kept up in order to utilize the space for parking. Mr. Cole stated that the City does not have funds for this type of purchase. Mr. Johnstone indicated that a healthy downtown must have a lot of on street public long term parking in order to be effective. There was further discussion about the different ideas to provide more parking.

Mr. Johnstone stated that in order to make these ideas happen, we need to have strong leadership. He suggested the leadership should come from the Chamber of Commerce. A comment was made as to how vital the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce was in the redevelopment of McMinnville's downtown.

Mat Haug suggested that additional landscaping in the downtown area would make a big difference. Mr. Johnstone felt that this was a good idea, however, he strongly suggested that a professional arborist be utilized to assist in the selection of the types of trees to plant. Mr. Haug stated that he was mainly referring to additional landscaping on Second Street and the surrounding areas of First Street.

Rob Molzahn stated that he had obtained a list of all the owners of the downtown buildings. This list can be used for noticing the property owners of any plans for the downtown redevelopment.

Kris Horn asked if there is any time limit for a building to be left vacant. Mr. Brierley stated there was no set time if the building was secure.

Mr. Johnstone was asked to write a letter to the editor of the Newberg Graphic to share his views on what he thinks of Newberg's downtown and also just comment on the redevelopment plans that have been started to hopefully get more public involvement.

- Downtown Report Card - Brierley

Mr. Brierley distributed a downtown report card. He asked for each committee member to give downtown a grade in each area listed. Mr. Brierley will prepare a summary of the comments to share at the next meeting.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Soderquist stated that the owner of Leathers Oil has agreed to provide period street lights around the newly remodeled building (which will have a retro-1950's-design).

The next regular meeting will be held on July 13, 1998 at First Federal Savings and Loan Bank.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the Downtown Redevelopment Committee on this 14th day of September, 1998.

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2
(Horn, McCain)

ATTEST:


Tabrina R. Mueller, Recording Secretary