

Federal Street Plaza AD HOC Committee Minutes
City Hall - 313 Court Street
January 29, 2025 / 5:30

Attending:

Bets Stelzer, Dan Richardson, Kristen Lillvik, Steve Light, Marcus Swift, Benjamin Wring, Richard Mays, Matthew Klebes

Opening and Approval of Agenda/Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 5:35. Roll call was taken by the secretary. Ben moved to approve the day's agenda, seconded by Steve and carried. Minutes for January 15th, 2025 were presented. Dan moved to approve minutes from 12/04/24, seconded by Ben and carried. Marcus Abstained.

Discussion

The Chair introduced the direction of the meeting, which is to consider and recommend potential tenants for the old Veterans Services Building located in the Plaza site. Matthew handed out floor plans to the committee and attendees, and stated that he had invited representatives from the Veterans Museum and The Dalles Main Street to come and speak to the committee about the space. Committee discussed bathroom location and hours of operation for potential occupants.

Public Comment

Chair opened to public comment.

Jean Maxwell: Introduced herself as the Veterans Museum Director. Jean described her various relationships with the building over the years, including a Boy Scout Project she had assisted with that involved naming the space Patriots Plaza, which she suggested doing. She recommended that The Veterans Museum be located there and that she believed they could be the eyes and ears of the plaza. She also advocated for making everything on the plaza very sturdy in consideration of children. She believes that the Museum is constantly being added to, and does not think there will be enough space for two organizations, and laid out a tentative floor plan that the museum may use if the city chooses them for this location.

Cynthia Kortge: Introduced herself as the Director of The Dalles Main Street since May of 2024. She expressed that Main Street was currently renting and she would love more stability and to do away with the rent expense. She believes the building is perfect in size and location for the organization and that they would do a great job of being the eyes and ears of the plaza. She reassured the committee that she would be happy to share the space with the Veterans Museum and that there would be room for both.

Max Maxwell: Expressed his concern about people sleeping on the street and vandalism in the city. He sees potential problems and is concerned for the community's safety and the feasibility of the project.

Jenny Meryl: She will be out of town for the open house and inquired whether it would be online. She is encouraged by how well The Dalles Main Street is doing and is also excited about the prospect of the added visibility a location change would give to the Veterans Museum. Inquired what being the eyes and ears of the plaza entailed.

Updates

Craig Building Owner has been followed up with and their lawyer is being contacted. Matthew updated on potential grants. Marcus updated on Sorosis Park Restoration. Committee also assigned member's roles in the upcoming Open House at Freebridge Brewing introducing the Plaza Schemes to the community, and discussed all logistics and marketing.

Closing

Committee concluded by suggesting the city look into the feasibility of both The Dalles Main Street and The Veterans Museum go into that space.

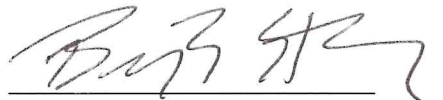
Next meeting was scheduled for 02/26/25 at 5:30. Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 6:50pm.

Submitted by/ Committee Secretary, Bets Stelzer

SIGNED:



Richard Mays, Chair



Bets Seltzer, Committee Secretary