



Design Committee Meeting | Thursday, October 5, 2023 | City Council Chambers | 9:00 a.m.

Minutes

Call to order, Cassie Ragan

Roll Call: Michelle Kendall, DDD Executive Director

Chris Bankston	Present
Tara Bennett	Present
Roy Dufreche	Absent
Michelle Juneau	Present
Tom Pistorius	Present
Cassie Ragan	Present
Jeffrey Smith	Present

Old Business

1. Approval of meeting minutes from September 7, 2023

Jeffrey Smith made a motion, seconded by Cassie Ragan, to approve the meeting minutes as written.

Chris Bankston	Yes
Tara Bennett	Yes
Roy Dufreche	Absent
Michelle Juneau	Yes
Tom Pistorius	Yes
Cassie Ragan	Yes
Jeffrey Smith	Yes

Yes: 6 | No: 0 | Absent: 1 | Abstain: 0 | Motion carried.

New Business:

1. Architectural Review: 307 S Cate St

Ms. Kendall opened the discussion by informing the committee of the business, Greycat Cycleworx, taking over this location and relocating from their previous location in downtown Hammond. The committee reviewed the architectural adjustments the business owner intends to make to the building such as simple façade improvements (fresh paint).

Cassie Ragan made a motion, seconded by Tom Pistorius, to approve the signage and color scheme presented for 307 S Cate St. based on the existing building and any other modifications must be resubmitted to the committee.

Chris Bankston	Yes
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Tara Bennett	Yes
Roy Dufreche	Absent
Michelle Juneau	Yes
Tom Pistorius	Yes
Cassie Ragan	Yes
Jeffrey Smith	Yes

Yes: 6 | No: 0 | Absent: 1 | Abstain: 0 | Motion carried.

2. Architectural Review: 207 S Cherry St

The committee reviewed exterior architectural adjustments that owner Robby Klein intends to make. Robby Klein was present to answer any questions committee members had. Ms. Kendall gave the committee a quick review of what members had in their packet regarding the architectural review. Mr. Klein took to the podium to discuss his architectural plans with the committee which was to paint a home a couple of shades of pink. When asked why pink was the chosen color, a question posed by Mr. Smith, Mr. Klein explained that this color is something that stands out to him and believes it would be a fun pop of vibrancy to the neighborhood. This color inspiration is also pulled from homes in New Orleans and a home near to him when he resided in Nashville, TN. Mr. Klein then presented a few color swatches to the committee.

A few committee members went over their concerns regarding traditional color palattes already established within the community. Ms. Kendall informed that a few other homes within that neighborhood have a colorful exterior paint and the neighborhood has embraced nontraditional color before. Still, a few members felt concerned over the color choice due to the conservative area the house is in but would enjoy seeing the shades of pink toned down.

Jeffrey Smith made a motion, seconded by Tara Bennett, to approve the architectural review of 207 S Cherry St. so long as the pink colors are toned down a few shades lighter than what was presented.

Chris Bankston	Yes
Tara Bennett	Yes
Roy Dufreche	Absent
Michelle Juneau	Yes
Tom Pistorius	Yes
Cassie Ragan	Yes
Jeffrey Smith	Yes

Yes: 6 | No: 0 | Absent: 1 | Abstain: 0 | Motion carried.



3. Discussion Spring 2024 projects

Ms. Kendall reviewed items that are currently budgeted for Spring 2024 such as the Hammond Welcome Sign, a landscaping and lighting budget, and east side and west side budget, the budget for sidewalk improvements, and more. Ms. Ragan voiced she would enjoy seeing an improved intersection for Oak and Thomas streets and allowing that to set the standard for other intersection improvements in the area. Mr. Pistorius agreed to improving the standard of intersections in downtown. Ms. Kendall informed she met with a regional traffic operations individual from the DOTD to go over the challenges faced with downtown intersections. Ms. Kendall also noted that crash data from that intersection supports the need for improvements. The committee unanimously agreed to make this intersection improvements a number one goal for Spring 2024. Another goal for 2024 will be to create a self-guided tour throughout downtown with signage. Mr. Smith would like to see improved tree maintenance for 2024. Ms. Ragan mentioned she is in conversation for reestablishing a Tree Board. She also suggested doing a walking tour with the committee to reevaluate the trees in downtown and assessing their current state.

Mr. Pistorius inquired about a parking lot that was proposed a few years back that would be located near Cate Street Seafoof Station. Ms. Kendall and Ms. Ragan collectively responded that the project came in over budget and the city does not own that area outright and cannot move forward with the idea.

4. Director's Report

Ms. Kendall is working with the Parks and Recreation department to get a better idea of that departments schedule, maintenance, trash pick-up, etc. Ms. Ragan voiced what the current trash pick-up schedule is like. Ms. Kendall informed that local business owners have voiced to her they would enjoy seeing a minor schedule adjustment in trash pick-up so trash accumulated over the weekend would not stay full going into the new week. The fence and water fountain repairs in Railroad Park are anticipated to occur within a week. Ms. Kendall informed the committee that they are required to take a state board of ethics training which outlays how languages are defined within the statute. Mr. Smith questioned why the board is required to partake in this. Ms. Kendall responded that because the design committee is a body that exists under the DDD Board of Directors and a board member sits on the committee, it is considered a public body. Due to this, people who serve on the committee supervise the work of the governmental body. A minimum requirement of the committee is fulfilling an ethics certification each year. Ms. Kendall offered to answer any questions the committee may have.

No Public Comment
Adjournment