

Village of Byron
Special Council Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by President Musall

Roll Call – Present: Bessenbacher, Brunell, Cole, Miller, Musall. Absent: None. 2 Seats Vacant

President Musall welcomed group and introduced Phil Hathaway who moderated discussion throughout the downtown visioning session. He stressed the obligation of Byron to do its part with visioning session in order to efficiently condense the time line. The fire created avenues for opportunity. We have to be prepared in order to pursue any opportunities for maximum impact.

Also in consideration is the how will the riverfront be enhanced. This is an important aspect to any plan.

Discussed finding Byron's footprint and trying to define a value statement which accurately highlights our community by defining what makes us a unique and welcoming community.

An important aspect of the process is that the community has to be involved and share in that vision. Demographic information should be considered along with evaluating external forces for threats and opportunities. A five year scenario plan should outline existing, reasonable, and best outcomes under a range of possibilities. We are a distressed community in need.

Discussion around sense of community, what defines us as a community now, and asked what we envision for ourselves in the future. A table by table study continued to allow for expansion and defense of ideas presented.

Input was compiled into a contingency list for space utility ideas. They included; one large building with mixed use, multiple tenants, parking options, rear building tie in with river, boardwalk, traffic flow, public safety, and utility issues.

Issue was raised with the length of time process has been taking, appears village not moving. Forecasting time frames is difficult. It's this slower process which allows for a vetting out of possibilities, thereby creating the direction with which to move towards.

Scenario planning continued by defining internal and external plans. Internal was defined as; reputation, commitment, management structure, skills, financial, and technology status. External was defined as; place making, new economy transition, promotion, marketing, educational, infrastructure, and societal trends.

Benefit of a DDA to Byron, it forms solid support and direction in future projects. It is groups like these that come together to do better things for their community. End of Visioning Session.

Musall moved, Brunell seconded to adopt the Resolution of intent to adopt a DDA as presented. Roll Call – Ayes: Bessenbacher, Brunell, Cole, Miller, Musall. Nays: None. 2 Seats Vacant

Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.