

May 22 2014

Montpelier Parking committee meeting minutes

Committee members in attendance; Andrew Brewer, Brian Cain, Mike Clasen, Kevin Casey, Tony Facos, Nolan Langweil, Tawnya Kristen. Others; Duane Wells, Ashley Witzemberger-Montpelier Alive Executive Director, Amy Nixon-Times Argus.

Duane Wells presented his plan for a parking lot to be built behind Pitkin Ct. resulting in 87 parking spots. The committee walked to the location for a site visit. The plan would involve sections of his property and city property, including >2000 sq ft of Blanchard Park. The construction would involve significant excavation of the hillside behind Pitkin Ct. Wells' hope would be to build the lot, sign a 99 year lease with the city, then sell the lot back to the city for (1) dollar. A general discussion took place over the height of the retaining wall, the aesthetics of the project, etc. The committee will recommend that the City Council consider the project.

Ashley updated the committee on the parklet project. The Rialto bridge parklet is on track and scheduled to go in within the week. Positive Pie II still has plans for a parklet on State Street. Tony pointed out that there may still be some issues to work out with the State, as State Street is actually a State roadway, particularly with the serving of alcohol.

Kevin reminded the committee of the June 21 'Park in the Street' festival on State Street. He also told the committee about a new series of (4) events called Saturday Night Food Trucks Stop, patterned after a very successful event in Burlington. The idea is spearheaded by property owner Jesse Jacobs, and will take place in the Jacobs lot. The first event will be held July 12th.

Kevin presented draft language regulating the usage of bags to cover parking meters for construction projects or other needs. The intention of the recommendations is NOT to make things more difficult for contractors and others to do their job, but to ensure that spots aren't needlessly bagged for extensive periods of time.

Finally, the committee will recommend that the city Manager's office move forward in issuing an RFP for a Smart Meter trial.

Next meeting – June 19th, 3:00pm.