



Placemaking Committee

7/17/2024

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Louise, Evan, Zubin, Charles, Katherine

Charles moved to approve [Draft Minutes from 5/22/2024 Meeting](#). Evan seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

Katherine reported that MDM is pressure washing Dempster St and Chicago Ave only in late July and early August. Quote received and it's in budget, contracting shortly. Pressure Washing Systems is currently working with public works and water to pull permits. Katherine will inform affected businesses know once It's scheduled.

Katherine reported that the directory kiosk project is proceeding in parallel with the city's Gateway signage project. The Evanston Thrives consultants have our sign design and are hopefully incorporating it into the "Enjoy Evanston" family of signage. There is a meeting with all districts on August 7th to go over the gateway and signage initiative. The City is willing to allow us to piggyback with them when they are pulling all their permits for gateway signage.

Katherine reported on Main Street Festoon Lighting. There is no change from previous meeting. This project cannot be completed until after Main Street construction is completed. The city will install poles in the sidewalks [like the ones at Arrington Lagoon](#) and Illuminight will string the lights. August 26th is a meeting to check in on this project and hopefully spin it up asap.

The Main Street Improvement Project continues. [North Sidewalk construction](#) is complete. Demolition has begun on the south sidewalk. Hopefully only 6-7 weeks. There are two crews currently working, and they hope to spend two weeks on each block. [New streetlights are in](#) and operational on the north side. MUCH BRIGHTER! Landscaping will not begin until after street paving is done. The La Principal Corner is going to have major grading corrections, extra work.

Katherine reported on Placemaking initiatives for Main Street to help draw people to businesses during construction.

- A new "Free Parking" signage going into Lot 24 to help alleviate confusion, paid for by the city.
- A new "Support Local Businesses" banner going up on Ridge/Grey Park

- Block Party attendance did not seem to suffer because of the construction. Two great parties!
- Rotary Main Street Mini-Festival tentatively scheduled for October 20th

The next Placemaking event is the [MDM Summer Sendoff Block Party](#) on Dempster, being held on Friday August 23rd, 5:30pm-7:30pm Feat. Cicada (band). Evanston Pour, Nanakakes and Firehouse Grill will vend. Other vendors: Justin Wynn Foundation “Do Good Pop Up”, BodyWorks by Carla and our Gate Partner is Rainbows for All Children.

Katherine reported that the Sidewalk Sale needs activation! She is trying to find 20+ tents to line the sidewalks on:

- Dempster West (only Luna and YWCA Shop for Good)
- Main East (no one ☹) **Booked Waldo Party on Sunday**
- Main West (Squeezebox, Stitchworks)

She is seeking Artists, Non-Profits, Info booths, Other Pop-Ups for these tents. Dempster East is crushing it: H3 (Secret Treasures, Rainbows Rummage Sale, Stumble & Relish, niceLena, possibly Murphy’s Fit).

Adjourn