

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD January 9, 2007

A Community Workshop of the Redford Township Downtown Development Authority, along with the Planning Commission and Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, in the Board Room of the Redford Township Hall, 15145 Beech Daly. This Community Workshop was opened by Director Mike Dennis of the Downtown Development Authority, at 5:32 p.m.

PRESENT: R. MILES HANDY, II KELLY FLEMING
 GARTH J. CHRISTIE TRACEY SCHULTZ KOBYLARZ
 ROBERT BRANG, JR. PAT MCRAE
 KIM SIVYER

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

MIKE DENNIS
CHIEF JOHN BUCK
MARY JO MULLEN
LINDA HALL
RICH HIETALA
JOHN SENTMAN
LILY CAVANAGH

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

AL HOARD
RICK PRINGLE

WADE TRIM

JULIE JOHNSTON
MARK KELLENBERGER
NICK LOMACO

Mike Dennis thanked everyone for coming to this Workshop. For the past three months, the Downtown Development Authority has been working on a design overlay guideline as a project within the Downtown District. The DDA wanted to have input of the Township officials.

Julie Johnston took over the meeting and showed slides of case studies in other communities, before and after pictures. Then Mark Kellenberger showed 100 slides of different communities and asked everyone to record their approval/disapproval on a preference survey form supplied to them which will help Wade Trim form the Township's design guidelines to help improve the Downtown Development area.

Those present were then broken up into three groups and asked to write down 1) what in the downtown development district are the strengths, 2) what are your concerns, things you would like changed or discourage, and 3) what is your ideal vision for the district?

In conclusion, the consensus seemed to be:


Strengths: High density residential, safety, walkability, continuity of streetscape, enthusiasm of downtown area, highly visible police force, businesses convenient for residents like the hardware store and restaurants.

Concerns: Too dark and dingy, need parking on Five Mile, 5 & Beech a crucial corner and needs changing, some businesses not appropriate for a downtown area, downtown now a hodge-podge from 1940s to 1960s with no uniform theme.

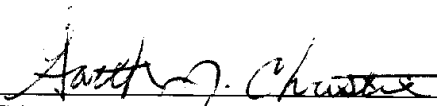
Vision: More cultural diversity, bike path, lighting, brick facades, night life to bring people downtown, more crosswalks, encourage parks in downtown area, some type of franchise, taller buildings, uniform theme like maybe "Pleasantville", maybe a traffic circle with fountain to maybe slow down traffic, more mom & pop stores. Colonial or Williamsburg look.

Julie thanked everyone for their input. They will take all this information and start generating some guidelines for the overlay district and will present to the DDA.

This Community Workshop was adjourned by Mike Dennis at 6:44 p.m.



R. MILES HANDY, II, SUPERVISOR
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD



GARTH J. CHRISTIE, CLERK
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD

Recorded by Dorothy Wasmundt