



CITY OF SPRING HILL TOWN CENTER TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021 6:00 P.M
LOCATION: [JOIN VIRTUAL MEETING](#)

- I. Call meeting to order and TCTF announcements
Bill Benedict called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. Bill Benedict, Jenny Blackstock, Hazel Nieves, Matt Koss, Dennis Georgatos, Alicia Fitts, Rachel Bshero, and Vincent Fuqua present.
- II. Approve January Minutes
Alicia made a motion to approve January minutes. January minutes were approved.
- III. TCTF Downtown Sidewalk Project
 - i. Recap project findings from downtown walking tour
Hazel: we walked the area and were made aware of a lot of challenges and some possibilities that we could work around. We looked at sidewalks (conditions, where they were), water/sewer, historical places along our path. Tyler is going to put together a visual for us with more detail on how many feet of sidewalk we need, where improvements that involve sewer would need to be made so we can have a visual and see paths where we can work and where we might have a challenge.

Alicia: I would add that the consistency in term of presentation of information will be a priority list from Tyler's perspective based on the degree of feasibility, cost, and match that with what we've presented and we have a list of things we want to do and things that are feasible. With James and Tylers help we can get additional documentation of the segments of roads with the numbers of feet of sidewalks, right-of-ways that would need to be purchased, drainage, we have something clear to present to BOMA with what we'd like, what's feasible, and what we need to think about. It was wonderful to have James and Tyler because there's a very different perspective when you walk with infrastructure and engineering backgrounds.

Bill: I think we have a solid plan to move forward with public works, prioritizing, and presenting to BOMA.

Rachel: The spreadsheet Alicia mentioned, will that be available to the rest of the Task Force? And did you happen to take any photos.

Alicia: Unfortunately, we did not take photos. The spreadsheet will be something we will all need to work on – it's a work in process. We will share it with the group as well. I will volunteer to taking on getting some photos to add to a packet. And we noticed things like beautiful old trees that we would need to work around or replant.



Hazel: The walk was very enlightening, it's one thing to look at maps but to walk it and see all the elements that would have to be considered, there are probably many more things we don't yet know but I came away very encouraged that we must make this happen. I think this will be a wonderful undertaking, but a little more complicated than we maybe perceived previously.

Bill: Some things for me were there's actually a bit of city property, maybe you can move the sidewalks in as opposed to right on the road. It was refreshing to hear Tyler's perspective because it was helpful to hear greenway planning, Old Town and Down Center and maybe being able to do that through the ball parks.

Alicia: By having Tyler involved, he is very up to date on the projects, the transit projects already in play, he is able to inform and educate us on the plan that Kedron Square has for widening School St and what their responsibilities are, there were a lot of pieces and it is more complex but I think we have the right data to present a clear of a story and a clear request to BOMA.

Matt: I didn't get to make the walk, it sounds like you guys uncovered a lot of things I was looking forward to uncovering.

Hazel: Once we get documentation we will get out of it, maybe we should all go out on our own and do a lot, or we will do another walk. When we look to make a decision on what Tyler comes up with, we should. James is going to take the files and put them in a CAD program for us so we will get good visuals to understand what we're dealing with a lot better.

- ii. Feedback from Public Works - Tyler Scroggins
- iii. General discussion

IV. Downtown Historic District Project – Collaboration with Spring Hill Historic Commission

- i. Update on Certified Local Government and historic zoning

Bill: We discussed some of the synergies in our January meeting. We will be doing a presentation to BOMA as it applies to exploring historic zoning for downtown Spring Hill, whether that's landmark or more of a district. I'll keep the team up to date as we make progress on that.

- ii. Discuss Spring Hill Cemetery Project

Alicia: We're beginning to pull resources together to support the cemetery team as far as resources, clean up, and the cemetery is potential one of the central links for the story of downtown through the people – four mayors, the owner of The Fainting Goat, and William McKissick is buried there.

Bill: Any one who is interested in being more involved can reach out.



Alicia: One thing to mention that's not on the is one of the alderman on the Spring Hill Historic Commission is interested in perusing art – murals, statues, sculptures that's being looked at through the Historic Commission but ties into the sense of place and pedestrian interest.

Rachel: I appreciate y'all sharing that I think that could be a really cool synergy between our team and the Historic Commission.

Hazel: Can you provide documentation to this group about the Cemetery Project?

Alicia: Vince Fuqua is working with the Heritage Foundation but they are only interested in the Williamson County Side. We are looking to create an executive summary, the state is starting to value and want to protect historically significant cemeteries there could be grant potential. I can get you an overview when we have one.

V. Round Table Discussion

Bill: One thing I wanted to touch on, there are some plans for the widening of 31 in the near future and TDOT shows sidewalks in some of their proposals. I think that's more reason to focus on sidewalks that can tie into that as planned.

Matt: Last I heard, and this was more on the north side of town, they were going to fit in 5 lanes and abandon pedestrian access – is that going to change going to downtown.

Bill: I don't know, all I hear is hearsay.

Hazel: That's all I've heard as well.

Vincent: The widening of highway 31 will only occur to Buckner Road to Miles Johnson at this time, we can use secondary roads such as Wall Street instead. I don't think it will affect downtown in any way.

Alicia: There is a project with regard to lighting around the city – LED lighting and one of the things the guys who presented mentioned briefly were street lights. As that project moves forward I suggest to this group how some of those might work in the Old Town area. If there is massive change at the city level, we might be able to get something on Main Street to develop that consistency. Also, I think it may be time for the team to discuss ideas of what beautification looks like – is it planters, flags, trees, we have a lot of challenges with right of ways and property owners but we should begin to get our hands around that as well.

Rachel: Can we plan to put that on our next agenda, we can all do some research and come with ideas ready to discuss?

Bill: Yes that sounds like a good idea.



VI. Public Comment(s)

VII. Adjourn

Bill Benedict called the meeting to a close at 6:47pm.