



## City of Mount Airy Downtown / Small Business Development Committee Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2021 - 12:00PM  
Virtual Meeting via Cisco Webex

Member(s) Present:			
Marie Wood (Chair)	Lizzie Morrison	Lenise Lynch	Nathan Bond
Member(s) Absent:			
Holli Nowlin	Eve Trotter	Will Sheppard	Christopher Cook
Teresa Leiva			
Staff & Guest(s) Present:			
Carolyn Hegler (Host)	Andy Goodall	Ben Barcroft	Barbara Jones
Dale Watson (Guest Speaker)			

- I. Call to Order**  
Commissioner Wood called the meeting to order at 12:05PM.
- II. Introduction of Guest Speaker**  
Ms. Wood introduced Chief of Police Dale Watson to the committee.
- III. Downtown Traffic Patterns & Events Presentation & Discussion**  
Chief Watson began by speaking about the idea of reintroducing two-way traffic along N. Main Street in the municipal service district. He also spoke about the trial this past autumn of using stop and yield lights at the intersection of N. Main Street and Franklin Street. Ultimately, it was decided to go back to using the standard light signals at that intersection due to pedestrian safety issues. The Police Department's number one focus in Downtown is to provide a safe environment for pedestrians.  
  
Ms. Wood opened up the discussion and would like to see the Moore Avenue and Franklin Street / N. Main Street stoplights removed. Mr. Goodall proposed

making part of Franklin Street (from Main Street to Franklin Street parking lot entrance) one way in order to remove one of the conflict points with cars trying to enter N. Main Street from Franklin Street. Other topics of discussion included traffic calming devices (I.e. raised crosswalks, stop signs, increased foot traffic, dancing officers, etc.) and adding/removing on-street parking along Willow Street.

Mr. Goodall asked Chief Watson if he felt that a recommendation by the committee for a traffic study for Downtown would be warranted. The Chief felt that it would not hurt to get input from an outside firm. Ms. Jones recommended that the study includes all aspects of Downtown including burying powerlines and streetscaping. The committee agreed with that Ms. Jones assessment. Ms. Morrison added that the intersection of Franklin Street and N. South Street be included.

Ms. Wood asked the committee who they would like to have as their next guest speaker. Ms. Lynch suggested the Fire Chief. The committee agreed that the Fire Chief would be good to talk to about development issues in Downtown.

#### **IV. Adjournment**

At 12:50PM, Ms. Wood adjourned the meeting.