



Design Committee minutes approved

Design Committee  
April 7, 2009

Mission: Make Six Corners physically attractive to consumers

Item	Information	Action
Attendance	Present were (3) : Nick Tufano, chair; Joe Angelastri and Ed Bannon	NA
Approval of minutes	Joe A. made a motion to approve the minutes of the Design Committee for March 3, 2009, and Ed B. seconded it.	The minutes were approved.
Streetscape	No update was available. Nick T. suggested getting CDOT to commit to a date for when they need issue the bids in order to start by Sept 1, so we know what the deadline is.	Ed B. to contact CDOT.
Parking	<p>The committee finalized plans for hanging parking banners on the buildings at the corner of Irving and Laporte Ave. A banner will be hung on the Irving Park side of Las Tablas, 4920 W. Irving Park Road. Another banner will be hung on the Laporte side of Lorch Flowers, 4936 W. Irving Park Road.</p> <p>The banners will be double-sided, pointing to the Laporte lot. For Las Tablas, we will use banners that we printed for a different location and install brackets. For Lorch, the brackets are already there, but we will need to print a new banner.</p> <p>A discussion of the Laporte lot followed. No update was available on the monthly permits. We also need clarification on whether the lot will remain 50 cents an hour, which would be worth promoting because it's cheaper than on-street, and on whether the meters can be extended to 12 hours.</p>	<p>Ed B. to get banners hung.</p> <p>Ed B. to contact LAZ</p>

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Milwaukee lot	<p>The Milwaukee lot project seems to be moving forward. We need to garner more support before another meeting will be held on the issue.</p> <p>Nick T. suggested looking into the proposed Milwaukee Ave. lot as a farmer's market site. He said many successful neighborhoods have a farmer's market and that a market would increase support for the lot. Joe A. noted that, under the streetscape plans, a market area is planned for Cicero next to Sears.</p>	<p>Work on continued support.</p> <p>Ed B. to inquire about space requirements.</p>
Athletico mural	<p>Nick T. proposed dropping the project because the proposed cost seems too high for current priorities. Also, the city has a good response to graffiti, which the mural was meant to prevent. He instead suggested that we examine an areawide project after the streetscape is complete.</p>	<p>Project dropped.</p>
Homelessness/ Panhandling	<p>Ed B. noted that a new outreach worker has started at Six Corners through our partnership with Hands To Help. He started last week and is to come to Six Corners twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays, but he has also come here at other times so far.</p> <p>The association contacted Securitas about our desire to hire a guard to deter panhandlers. Unlike other security vendors we talked to, Securitas has a mobile patrol, which visits many sites in addition to Six Corners. The other vendors, on the other hand, would station a guard only at Six Corners for a minimum of four hours. The advantage of that, of course, is we have someone here during the whole period. The disadvantage is that we would be paying for a lot of down time. Securitas would visit Six Corners for one hour, primarily to talk to panhandlers and secondarily to patrol parking lots and alleys. The committee decided on two visits per week on Monday and Thursday on a trial basis. We can schedule shorter, more frequent visits after the trial period.</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>Contact Securitas to make arrangements. Find out what information will be reported back.</p>

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New Business: Clean & Green	Working with community residents and Ald. Allen, the association is hoping to get a mural painted under the Irving Park Road viaduct on the city's Clean & Green Day on April 25. The plan is for the city to do the prep work. Marlena Ascher, an Old Irving Park resident, is coordinating with art students from DePaul.	Work out details.
New Business: Facade improvements	As requested at last month's meeting, Ed B. presented a Facade Improvement report. The report listed prospects for facade improvement and the status of those projects. The report will be on each month's agenda. The association's goal is to facilitate the completion of three facade improvements in 2009.	Ed B to continue working with prospects. Contact each one before next meeting.
New Business: Window coverings for vacancies	Nick T. suggested designing window coverings for all vacancies. Currently, the vacant storefronts are a hodgepodge of open windows, cloth-covered windows and brown paper-covered and sometimes newspaper covered. Nick suggested providing a uniform covering that would include the Six Corners logo and a slogan like "Come Grow With Us." The signs would provide a clean look and would be consistent with what private shopping centers do when they have a vacancy. He said, however, that some landlords might be reluctant because they prefer to have the focus be on the sign in their window that advertises the space for rent. He said we could offer to hang one blank covering where their For Rent sign could then be hung. Other incentives would include a listing on the Six Corners Available Space list, which we already do, window washing, listing on LoopNet.com and a possibly a projecting sign.	Ed B. to research costs and design.
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. The next meeting of the Design Committee was called for 6 p.m., May 5, at Las Tablas, 4920 W. Irving Park Road.	