

## **Minutes Riverfront Design Committee**

**April 21, 2009**

**3:00 pm**

### **DDA Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Ranny Rieker, Mike Hayes, Bo Brines, Mark Rhule, Claudia Wallin

**Staff Present:** Tony Kulick, Keith Baker

Staff shared the cost estimate prepared for the proposed Riverfront redevelopment. The estimate was \$6,176,280. Staff presented the committee a drawing of the "Preferred Riverfront Design" prepared by Hamilton Anderson. Staff also presented an overlay map swing prior historic development along the river and explained how that historic development may effect proposed redevelopment.

The committee discussed the pros and cons of pursuing development according to the Hamilton Anderson plan. The committee concluded that funding is not currently available to finance a \$6 million redevelopment at this time.

Staff reported that he had obtained an estimate from Stephanie Szostak to prune the trees and cut the understory growth along the river bank. That work would have the effect of opening a view of the river to more of the park especially along the trail. The cost estimate was \$14,218 and would take approximately three weeks to complete. Stephanie reported that much of the plant material that needed to be removed was invasive species. The committee discussed the proposal and concluded that clearing the undergrowth would be a good first step for redevelopment. Clearing the undergrowth would be an affordable project to undertake this spring. The Committee concluded that they would instruct staff to make a presentation on the proposed Riverfront Redevelopment and historic uses to the DDA Design Committee at their April 28, 2009 meeting along with a recommendation have the undergrowth along the river bank removed, and request that the Design Committee recommend to the full DDA to approve the funding for the project at their May meeting.

The committee also asked staff to investigate design and cost for the new restroom called for as part of the plan. It was hoped that if designs and cost estimates were in hand possible MDOT non-motorized grant funds or economic stimulus funding could be easier to obtain.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:10 pm