

**MEETING MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Friday, September 7, 2007
Fremont City Hall
Council Chambers
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

MEETING OF THE PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE

Call to Order

The DDA Parking Subcommittee was called to order by Lon Vredevelde at 8:06 AM.

**Parking Subcommittee
Members Present**

Lon Vredevelde	DDA Chair
Marianne Boerigter	Executive Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts
Gerry Rich	Fremont Business Owner
Becky Laing-Austin	Fremont Business Owner
Bob Stehouwer	Fremont Property and Business Owner
Ron Vliem	Executive Director, Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

Discussion on the Common Refuse Service Downtown

The Subcommittee outlined the need to work with the current downtown commercial refuse carrier to negotiate a deal that would be beneficial to business owners financially and that would also create a service pick-up schedule that would meet every business owner's needs. The Subcommittee wanted to make sure that the businesses received the best deal from the carrier. Ron Vliem volunteered to contact the current carrier, Allied Waste, to determine the best deal and to determine if it would be best for the carrier to bill the individual businesses directly or for the City to coordinate the billing.

Discussion on Recycling

The Subcommittee decided that the downtown businesses should have a place within the common refuse enclosures where cardboard and paper could be picked up. The Subcommittee wanted to use a local company, and they thought the service should be free of charge since the business owners who currently recycle do not have to pay for the service.

Discussion on Accommodating Amish Downtown

City staff was directed to look into how other communities, who have a large Amish population who use horse and buggy, handle horse waste within public spaces.

Review of Parking Plan Downtown

The Subcommittee decided that the parking plan should include designated areas where residential renters, employees, and patrons park. They also indicated that there should be a place for horse and buggies to park and for the farmers market vendors to park during market season.

Discussion on Parking Assessment

After much discussion, it was decided that City staff should come back to the Subcommittee with two parking assessment formulas to help determine how a parking assessment should be calculated so that it is handled fairly. Specifically, they asked that a formula similar to the one Zeeland uses be created and that the old formula that Fremont used be applied to the current situation.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 AM.