

Vaughan Mall Blue Ribbon Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2020

Members Present: Doug Roberts, Chair; Ned Raynolds; Brian Murphy; Sam Winebaum; Peter Vandermark; Ellen Fineberg, Mayor Becksted

Staff: Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Manager

Review/acceptance of November 1, December 9, and December 10, 2019 draft meeting notes

On a motion by Ellen Fineberg, seconded by Ned Raynolds, the Committee unanimously voted to accept the draft minutes of December 13, 2019.

Presentation and discussion of design concepts by Klopfer/Martin design team

Kaki Martin and Jennifer Ng presented three design concepts for short-term improvements to Vaughan Mall for the Committee's review and feedback. Ms. Ng said the goal of the meeting is to gather the Committee's response and refine the three concepts or a hybrid thereof into a revised concept.

The guiding tools for the each centered on the following four principles:

1. Lighting (play with light, overhead string lights, ornaments and wrapping)
2. Paint (stencils, super-graphics, stripes)
3. Planting (off the shelf pots, re-purposed construction materials), and
4. Furniture (CTE program. Tree stumps, re-purposed materials, off the shelf furniture)

Each concept focused on a theme and, given the small budget available, was designed to repurpose materials that could be strategically incorporated into the project to add interest and keep costs down. Opportunities for community engagement were also embedded in the concepts as a way to invite people to creatively engage and to encourage repeat visits to the Mall.

Other characteristics discussed were creative options for screening the Mall from the Worth Lot using large planters or a trellis. Connectivity between Chestnut Street and Portwalk Place with features that welcome people to the Mall was also proposed. The desire for landscaping, moveable furniture and planters that could potentially be re-used in other places in the City was discussed as was the topic of creatively lighting the area via projection, glow in the dark paint or other options.

Next Steps

The next step is for the consultants to incorporate the today's feedback into a revised hybrid option for the committee's next review. Following this step, stakeholders input will be discussed.

Next Meeting

Consultants will review the input from today's meeting and get back to staff with potential dates for a follow-up Committee meeting.

On a motion by Mayor Becksted, seconded by Brian Murphy, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Prepared by Nancy Carmer