Downtown Mall Task Force
Physical Plant Subcommittee Meeting
April 30, 2013 -- 5:00 p.m.
Carver Recreation Center

Present:
Dede Smith
Susan Neale
Charli McGhee
Jim Tolbert

Those present waited for approximately 15 minutes to see if other members might arrive before beginning discussion. Because the group was small, there was a discussion of several items but no recommendations made.

The first item mentioned was to correct the spelling of asphalt patch in the notes from the previous meeting.

There was discussion about the possibility of cameras on the mall for public safety purposes. This has been brought up in the original meeting and the group present decided they wanted additional information prior to the next meeting. Several questions were asked and Jim Tolbert volunteered to work to obtain the answers.

The questions were:

- How many cameras does the City have operational at this time including traffic cameras?
- Do these cameras record and if so how long?
- Are there cameras in the Downtown Parking Garage?
- What are the details of the proposal submitted several years ago by the Police Department for cameras on the downtown mall?

There was some discussion of the possibility of a business improvement district to pay for mall operational items and maintenance. Jim Tolbert explained how a BID would work and gave some history on the discussion several years ago when a BID was considered. In relation to a way to cover cost of increased mall maintenance and operational items, there was limited discussion of the use of parking meters. Jim indicated information had been prepared for the City Manager updating an earlier parking study and indicated that a more than sufficient stream to cover maintenance and operational could be developed through parking meters.
Questions were asked about parking garage hours and safety of parking in the garages. There were no answers to the questions, but that discussion led to the questioning of whether there are cameras in the garages.

Other issues that were discussed included:

- Concerns about bike riding on the mall
- Mall lighting and disrepair
- Condition of side streets
- Trash containers on Second Street, NE
- The condition of mall benches and the lack of benches (it was suggested that we might look at benches around the trees. But it was pointed out that most of the trees are in the private café spaces).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.