

First Avenue Business Corridor Meeting

June 12, 2007

Wells Fargo

8 a.m.

Present: Kathy Beard – *Hunter Companies*, Scott Crosby–*EnCompass*, Craig Erickson–*Music Loft*, Toni Floerchinger–*Collins Community Credit Union*, Carey Hamilton–*Fun City*, Rev. Harnish–*Wedding Chapel*, Gloria Johnson–*Partnership for Safe Families*, Scott Kallemeyn–*Surgery Center*, Erin Lenninger–*Coe College*, Kristina Mattison-Bohr –*Mound View Neighborhood Resource Center*, Emily Meyer–*Mound View Neighborhood Association*, Joe Nosek–*Mound View Neighborhood Association*, Troy Pins–*Garling Construction*, Rod Pritchard–*Coe College*, Amanda Proffitt–*Coe College*, Arlyn Robinson DDS, Keith Slaymaker–*Slaymaker Chiropractic*, Matt Teply–*Wells Fargo*, John Wasta–*Pioneer Workspace Solutions*, Phil Wasta–*Pioneer Workspace Solutions*, Betsy Westphalen–*Wells Fargo*.

First Avenue Re-Pavement Presentation

Lee Tippe from the Cedar Rapids Engineering Department and Bob Tobin from Shoemaker-Haaland Professional Engineers presented some information on the upcoming re-pavement project on First Avenue. The area being re-paved will be between 10th St. NE and 17th St. NE. It is expected that they will start in early August and the project will take about two months. It is a two-phase plan that will not include redoing any base work, just drilling down the old asphalt and resurfacing. All parts of 1st Ave. will have traffic lanes or parking blocked at some point in time. The city will do its best to ensure a smooth traffic flow. The Cedar Rapids Engineering Department will present an open house on July 9 at Coe College Clark Alumni House from 4–6 p.m. with information on the re-paving project.

Name, Mission Statement, Goals for Group

Three possible names for the business group were presented from the steering committee. Names were discussed and the group voted 11-5 on First Avenue Uptown College District. Though a bit longer than the others, it was felt that the name encompassed all aspects of the group (First Ave, College, Uptown) and it was felt that it would be commonly referred to as “Uptown” or “Uptown College District.” The word “uptown” was used due to the hip and contemporary connotation and also the relationship to “downtown” Cedar Rapids which provides the district’s southern border. It was pointed out that there is a current event series named “Uptown Friday Nights.”

A mission statement compiled by the steering committee, along with a small list of goals and objectives, was distributed to the group. Anyone that has any changes or modifications should contact Erin Lenninger.

Further Organization

The steering committee has determined a set monthly meeting date of the second Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. and it was suggested to the group that the same be set up for the large meetings. The third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. was suggested. Organizations with facilities large enough for 20-25 people have been asked to volunteer any meeting space so that the meeting might rotate locations. The next meeting, July 19 at 2 p.m., will be held at Coe College.

Representatives from the Mound View Neighborhood Association asked that a member of the business group attend an upcoming monthly neighborhood meeting to inform the neighborhood on the progress of the group. Scott Crosby will attend the July 14 meeting.

The steering committee is working on the following projects:

- 1) Setting up a non-profit organization, 501(c)3.
- 2) Securing a market analysis of the district from the city.
- 3) Generating logo ideas for the large group to vote on.
- 4) Creating a press release to inform the community on the new organization.
- 5) Developing a Web site to be used by members of this group, for this group.

Next Meeting: July 19 at 2 p.m. at Coe College. Invitation to follow.