

**City of Decorah Community Betterment Committee Meeting
April 5, 2021 – Immediately following council**

The City of Decorah city council's Betterment Committee met on Monday, April 5, 2021 immediately following the regular scheduled council meeting.

Steven Zittergruen, Chair, called the meeting to order with Hadley, Neal, Luse attending.

Others in attendance: Mayor Borowski, City Clerk / Treasurer Wanda Hemesath, and several Dept Heads/staff members

Agenda

Discussion on MOU for Supper Iowa Speedway

Wayne Smith, owner/proprietor of Upper Iowa Speedway was present to review this years' event schedule.

Zittergruen stated he had heard from several it would be appreciated if races could have a hard stop by 10:30. Smith advised last year all races were concluded by 9:00. He was agreeable to a 10:30 hard stop except for one event May 30. This is a large venue and could possibly extend thru 11:00.

All expressed appreciation for his willingness to work with the council and community to come to a mutual understanding for the races.

Discussion on use of Downtown parking spaces for outdoor dining

Discussion was held regarding spaces for outdoor dining/bike racks/reserved take-out/shopping spots. City Engineer Brill was directed to determine what and how many spots are being reserved for whatever purpose and which ones have permission and which ones have just put in cones or barricades on their own.

Dominque Bockman indicated they would be willing to give up the bike rack for an additional outdoor dining spot.

Discussion was also held on seasonally closing Winnebago, Court or another street for outdoor dining.

Some felt bike racks should be off Water St. and placed on side streets. Generally, bikers are mobile able to walk from bike racks to their destination.

Mask Mandate

Lengthy discussion was held on dropping the outdoor mask mandate. Zittergruen encouraged the council to make a good faith effort to show residents our appreciation for the sacrifices they've made but that we are looking to start lessening the restriction. When outdoors masks should be recommended when social distancing isn't possible.

Zittergruen feels we need a matrix as to when the mandate will be ended.

Hadley stated CDC guidelines need to continued to be followed. Neal stated masks should stay in place at walk-up windows

Councilperson Neal, Luse and Hadley were against any changes at this time.

Zittergruen stated we need to readdress this issue again in May.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Semerath