

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

City Hall Council Chamber 2 FL.
127 South court Street
Linda Chancey, Council Clerk

RE: Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

Circleville City Council met at City Hall Bldg. in Council Chambers, Circleville, Ohio on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. The following Council Members were present: President David Crawford; Michelle Blanton, At Large; Katie Logan Hedges, At Large; Tom Klitzka, At Large; Jeff Hallinin, First Ward; Barry Keller, Second Ward; Todd Brady, Third Ward; Sheri Theis, Fourth Ward and Linda Chancey, Clerk. Guests Mayor Don McIlroy.

Roll call. 0 Absent

All speaking parties were sworn-in

Crawford stated the purpose of this public hearing is to hear comments regarding an application to establish a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (here after DORA) pursuant to R.C. Section 4301.82. to modify, approve, or disapprove the application.

The Public Hearing was advertised in the general circulation in the Circleville Herald as required by law on June 19, 2021, and on file in the Planning and Zoning office and online Circleville City's website for review.

The Mayor stated that he received a letter from Uptown Circleville organization regarding a DORA. My job as Mayor is to fill out an application and present it to City Council. McIlroy explained the changes to the original copy regarding Council's request, an updated map and added Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The updated DORA application information was sent to Council with a letter from the Mayor. Also, included in the DORA was names of the liquor establishments involved, identified by name, address, and liquor license permit numbers. There might not be an event every Thursday Friday or Saturday, but if there is a sponsor for that weekend, they will need to fill out an application with Administration for any downtown event. The Mayor stated that he supports the DORA and is a good idea.

Hedges asked for clarification on map boundaries. Crawford said it starts on High to Scioto Streets then to Pickaway Street to Franklin Streets. Gina Docherty, Attorney for El Pedregal restaurant downtown Circleville. stated this will be good for business for these restaurants and the restaurants will be a good neighbor for this DORA.

Susan Metzger, Public Addiction Correlation, PAC, 770 North Court Street stated that she has concerns over the information in the DORA. Such as trash on the streets, is Council going make sure it is cleaned up? It identified 10 business, but I see only eight and to make sure a specific DORA cup is used and uniform by all liquor establishments. I have concerns with the bird bikes, people ride them on the sidewalks, this could cause an accident, has the City considered that? Metzger asked could she used the second and third weekends to use popup tents for education programing?

Jeff Carithers email dated July 6, 2021, stated "the intent of the DORA is to help the downtown restaurants, bars, and retail establishments. If the food trucks and food trailers are allowed to continue showing up and operate at random it is almost certain that they will appear during a DORA sponsored event. Without a robust code enforcement plan the DORA will not help all the restaurants in the downtown area because some of their potential sales will be siphoned off by food trucks and food trailers."

Richard Rhoades, 649 Dunkel Road asked if all four weekends are not being used, but two are scheduled does it still go thru the Mayor's office? Crawford stated they can apply thru the Mayor's office to schedule for that weekday, City Council is trying to be more streamline.

The Mayor addressed Metzger's concerns, the back two pages of the DORA states the establishments involved are Tootles Pumpkin Inn and Watt Street Traven. As far as cups, there will be one local cup

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

design, so everyone has the same cup. The Mayor is in contact with Bird Bikes company asking to help police the scooters. Regarding food trucks, the City's zoning codes are in the process of being updated regarding food trucks, they are on private property and the new codes will address those trucks. Using educational material in popup tents, fill out an application for permission to do that. There is discussion about closing an alley in the downtown, I am working with the people involved and maybe you can setup there with educational material.

Blanton stated this not for events, it just establishes the area for the events, my questions is who is responsible for the other two weekends that Uptown Circleville does not have an event? Crawford stated my understanding is who applies for a permit can establish themselves as a group.

Nathan Wilson, Visitor Bureau, 325 West Main Street, explained one thing that has not been done by other communities is the permitting process. What is enacted during those times, other cities do not have a permit process. It is not tied to a specific event it is just open at those established times.

Richard Rhoades explained we chose to make it easier to have it two weekends, other cities do four weekends because it too confusing which weekends it is on. The application process makes the event specific, and it is not, we are not hosting events just areas for a DORA. Not every store owner will participate in the event. Uptown Circleville would be happy to sponsor all four weekends.

Crawford stated there needs to be stipulations such as Pumpkin Show is not included in the DORA, two million dollars liability insurance and if Council wants to keep High Street as a boundary line.

Brady asked, why Shifty's Bar was not included in the DORA area, the Mayor stated this is not a bar hop there is no downtown merchants/retails between Franklin and Washington Streets that is why they were not included.

Sherree Jankiewicz, Christopher's Boutique 121 South Court Street asked about the timeframe? I think it should be earlier and not later in the evening, maybe 9:00 pm. The Mayor stated the suggestion was given to me for that time frame, this can be a discussion item in a Cmte mtg.

Crawford asked Rhoades what is his plans for sanitation? Rhodes explained they are going to place extra trash bins for those days, and we are asking businesses to help with that. The Mayor agreed that Rumpke will pick up the Fridays in the downtown areas. Our service staff will also empty the trash bins too. Crawford stated so the City will pay overtime to pick up trash... the Mayor stated maybe Rumpke can pick up on Saturdays.

The Mayor asked, if we are not going to have merchants/business open why are we doing this? this should be a Cmte mtg discussion. Rhoades stated maybe we need to change the hours if the hours are not working. Hallinin stated they can place signs in the windows stating they are not participating in the DORA.

Blanton asked about cups is their color for day or week? The Mayor explained the business just need to have a DORA cup. The merchants/business will buy the cups with DORA logo.

Wilson explained this was researched on legality, it is just for said establishments and at established times. It would be nice if the business would stay open until 10:00 pm, that would allow the people to spend money, but we can work with the hours.

Crawford stated the DORA application will go to the Judicial Cmte for further review.

The Public Hearing Meeting was closed at 7:12 pm,

Respectfully submitted.

Linda Chancey, Council Clerk