



DMI Leadership Report – June 2021

From Jason Ilstrup, DMI President

Creating Connections and Community:

- DMI partnered with the Workforce Development Board of South-Central Wisconsin, Job Center of Wisconsin, City of Madison, Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce, Madison's Central BID, Destination Madison and Madison Originals on an isthmus area virtual job fair. The fair connected over 40 employers with over 200 potential employees.
- DMI hosted several events last month including a virtual Behind the Scenes with our partners at the Henry Vilas Zoo. This month's What's Up Downtown Breakfast featured a presentation by Lupita Alvarez and Rob Gottschalk from Vandewalle & Associates and Diane Morgenthaler from Destination Madison on the economic importance of Downtown Madison. We also hosted a Nosh at Noon with a panel discussion on the future of arts, entertainment, and tourism Downtown. DMI returned to live events with the June 10th Breese Stevens edition of New Faces, New Places.
- The DMI Board and Inclusiveness Committee hosted Step Up: Equity Matters for a workshop on facing bias.
- DMI participated in a focus group for the visioning study for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum. DMI also presented to the May meeting of the Monona Terrace Board of Directors on the future of Downtown Madison.

Economic Development:

- The Economic Development Committee heard a presentation from Dr. Ruben Anthony from the Urban League of Greater Madison on the new Black Business Hub on South Park Street.
- DMI registered a statement of support to the City Council for the conditional use resolution which passed at the June 1 meeting.

Challenge Committee:

- The Challenge Committee met to review and approve the 2021 DMI Civic Engagement Agenda.

Membership Development:

- The Membership Development Committee met to hear updates from the Committee members on new membership and our partners. New members to DMI include Automation Arts, Elevate, Fox Arneson, Monarch Addiction Recovery Clinics, S.C., Progress Center for Black Women and Solace Friends, Inc.

Transportation:

- The Madison Department of Transportation met with DMI and several developers to discuss a potential transportation demand management (TDM) resolution working its way through the City.
- The Transportation Committee met and heard a presentation from the Greater Madison MPO on COVID transportation impacts along with the monthly updates from several partners.
- DMI continues to serve on the Vision Zero Stakeholder Committee. We heard updates on the plan and about the pilot reduction of the speed limit to 20 mph in the Tenney Lapham neighborhood.

Quality of Life:

- The Community Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) steering committee, which DMI is a member of, is creating a community advisory team to help with outreach.
- The Quality of Life committee met with the new Dane County Sheriff Calvin Barrett. The Committee also discussed the work of the homelessness subcommittee and the newly formed UW relations subcommittee.

Inclusiveness:

- The Inclusiveness Committee met and heard updates from the Committee's working groups. The Committee also discussed how to make DMI committee meetings, events, and advocacy work more inclusive and equitable. The discussion used the Step Up facing bias workshop conversation as the guide.
- The Beyond Compliance is hosting a press event in June to release the Madison Festivals and Events Accessibility Guide. At the event we will also be announcing the new training program for event organizers.

Government Relations:

- The Government Relations Committee will be meeting with Council President Syed Abbas on Monday, June 21 at 8am.

For questions and more information, contact Jason Ilstrup, DMI President at 608-512-1330 or jilstrup@downtownmadison.org.