

**Downtown Revitalization Committee  
Minutes  
March 3, 2016**

The Downtown Revitalization Committee (DRC) met on Thursday, March 3, 2016, at 6:10 p.m. at city hall. Present were committee members: Kelly Knight, Jill Schindler, Mary Lynn Kiviko, Marcia DeLuca, Linda Wyeth, and Steve Ristola. Absent was Carol Devine. Others present: Tim Swiggum, June Roohr, Don Wyeth, and Pam Ristola.

**Financial Report**

Carol Devine sent a report showing a balance of \$1, 573.89 in the account. A Wyeth/Ristola motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

**Farmers Market**

Discussion was held concerning the need for more vendors and more importantly a lead vendor. Don Wyeth has had a discussion about a potential plan to work with local growers and sell items at the market. We would like the media outlets to please write a short article about the need for more vendors. The signs should be repainted for the new season as they are beginning to look rough.

**Community Garden**

All gardeners will be offered their plot again and it will be determined how many are available or if we may need to create more. The newspapers should report that any would be gardeners that want a plot can sign up by calling city hall before May 1st. We will create more gardens either at that location or if necessary an additional location. A discussion was had concerning a local homeowner wanting to do create a bee colony in his yard. It would be a small one but very helpful to our apple and cherry trees. No decision made, not for us to decide but the group seemed in favor of it.

**Main Street Car Show and Burnout Contest**

Linda has made contact with the Remote Control racers from Thorp. They are discussing the idea. Motion by Knight/Ristola to change the date of the Car Show to Aug. 20 was approved unanimously. The visitors guides and some websites have it listed on the third Saturday. Tim and Jill will work on a budget for the next meeting, it is likely we will need to raise more donations this year. Jill has contacted the band Minor Distraction and they would need \$200 down if we decide to go with them. A Delucca/Knight motion hire the band for the 20<sup>th</sup> was approved unanimously. It is our hope that Shannon Clark and Carol Devine will be able to take the lead on the craft fair and vendors.

**Oktoberfest**

It was decided to scrap the Oktoberfest and work on Autumnfest. We would like to have more discussion at the next meeting for dates and ideas. Tim discussed the potential of a larger fest yet to be created that tourism gives marketing dollars to. The idea of Popple River Days was discussed in the past and a potential starting point. This would be for 2017 but planning must start early. We need a bigger crew for that as well.

**New Business**

**Main Street Banners** The committee would like to request that the Public Works guys put the old banners up now as Main Street looks so barren. Discussion continued around the potential of a new banner that would stretch across Main St. and read "Welcome Alumni!!"

or “Welcome Hunters” and such. We will investigate the costs involved and logical placement.

**Recollection Wisconsin** The State Historical Society is working with libraries across the state to collect local information. This information, pictures included, will be scanned into a system and archived with links to access it and other information they have on Owen already. This round of interest involves the Owen Jr. Fair history. People will be asked to bring pictures or tell stories, or both. A Ristola/Knight motion to support these efforts however possible was approved unanimously.

**Next meeting** will be held on April 7th at 6pm at city hall.

**Adjourn**

A Kiviko/Schindler motion and subsequent vote approved adjournment at 7:43 pm.