

## **Downtown Revitalization Committee**

### **Minutes**

**April 4, 2019**

The Downtown Revitalization Committee (DRC) met on Thursday April 4, 2019, at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Present were committee members: Ken Martine, Nicole Shattuck, Travis Rogers and Jeff Conger. Absent was Tony Wallace, Allison Milbert and Mary Lynn Kiviko .

Others present: Tim Swiggum, Carol Devine and Cindy Cardinal.

Called to order at 6pm by Martine.

#### **Minutes:**

A Rogers/Conger motion and second to approve the March 14, 2019 minutes passed unanimously.

#### **Financial Report**

No report available.

#### **Trackless Train Funding:**

Swiggum proposed a group funding idea to purchase an Electric Trackless Train. The idea has been presented to the Owen Public Housing and it wouldn't be right to ask them to pay for all of it but rather to reach out to our main organizations that run the community events and have a stake in the success of our events. The total cost for the train with delivery is approximately \$22,000 with the OPH pledging \$10,000 and challenging the community to raise the rest. A Conger/Rogers motion and second to commit the DRC to raising funds, write a letter and a press release and approach the O-W Lions, OWACC and other organizations along with the city and village.

#### **Growin' Owen:**

Swiggum presented a letter written for release to the papers regarding the community garden plots, Farmer's Market and Growin' Owen. With minor changes suggested the letter will be sent to the papers.

#### **Christmas Celebration:**

Discussion was held regarding the potential of a Christmas Celebration of some kind. In the past a lighting ceremony was held downtown and a Breakfast with Santa as well. More decorations would be great and challenge all businesses and property owners to decorate. A large live pine tree at the end of main street was discussed. It is railroad property most likely but should be looked into. Costs for a 12-15' evergreen will be looked into. Planting in Spring would be best.

#### **Car Show:**

Ken reported that he had spoke at length with Mike Gwiazda and had a few ideas for the Car Show. The committee has not met yet to go over the suggestions. Some ideas were to make the trophies unique so as to draw the attendees back again. Discussion on judging (qualified judges) vs. voting. Maybe some of both. Categories seemed okay. Bounce Houses were a big hit and should continue. Tim will invite Tom Kahn to a future meeting if possible, he ran the Loyal Car Show for many years.

#### **Street Dance:**

The schedule for the day is still up in the air at this point. The All-Class Reunion and Mael's Dairy 100 Year Anniversary will be celebrated that same day. BBQ Chicken Dinner was discussed and if we can pull off the cooking end it could be quite profitable as usually the Lublin Legion gets half the proceeds. EverRoad availability is still in question but we should know something by next week and K-Man's Music is still willing to perform a couple hours for free. A consensus was plan for a chicken dinner and continue working on the music schedule.

#### **Autumnfest:**

Nothing new to report.

#### **Movie Nights:**

Travis will speak to Bob Houts to see if the school is still licensed or if they are willing to maintain a license as before. The Owen Public Library can get a free license for events that happen at the library or on library grounds.

#### **Set Committee meetings:**

**Growin' Owen:** April 17,2019, Noon at L.A.S.T. Ace. **Car Show:** April 10, 2019, 6pm at L.A.S.T. Ace,

**Next meeting** will be held on **May 2, 6pm at City Hall.**

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Martine at 6:48 pm.

Submitted by Tim Swiggum