

Downtown Revitalization Committee

Minutes

Monday, August 26, 2019

6pm.

The Downtown Revitalization Committee (DRC) met on Monday, August 26, 2019, at 6:00 pm. at City Hall. Present were committee members: Ken Martine, Travis Rogers, Nicole Rogers and Allison Milbert. Absent were Cindy Knight, Jeff Conger and Tony Wallace.

Others present: Tim Swiggum LoraLee Peterson and Cindy Cardinal.

Called to order at 6:04 pm. by Martine.

Minutes:

T. Rogers/Milbert motion and second to approve the August 1, 2019 minutes passed unanimously.

Financial Report

A financial update was given and we have approximately \$4025.15 in our account. A Milbert/T. Rogers motion and second to approve the financial report passed unanimously.

Car Show:

The Car Show showed a modest profit and best of all everything seemed to run very smooth. Having a separate merchandise table was discussed for future shows. Next year we will coordinate with the Jazz Festival that will compliment our show. Sponsor shirts were discussed and Tim will get in touch with Jeff to ensure all sponsors receive a shirt. There are still some bills due but it will not amount to much.

Autumnfest:

Will be held October 19th. Discussion of vendors was that we will not turn them away but it is not necessary to send letters and advertise for vendors. LoraLee Peterson, Owen Librarian, was on hand to discuss the possibility of having a Trunk or Treat event along with the Autumnfest. Her board may decide to hold it on Halloween at the Library in which they would still like our support for this which was given wholeheartedly. She also thought that since the Autumnfest is being held the same day as the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Longwood apple pie making fundraiser that maybe people could pick up their pies there. All thought that was a great idea if they want to do it. Discussion was held regarding a Scarecrow Contest with voting at the Autumnfest. A letter of invitation was discussed that should go to all area organizations ahead of time and include a flyer for the Autumnfest. Tim will take care of writing the letter and working on a flyer to post. The letter will be used as a press release that should be sent to the newspapers for printing the week of October 7th. Music was also discussed and Art Petke was suggested as we had not had him at Autumnfest yet. A N. Rogers/Milbert motion and second to Hire Art Petke for up to \$300, set an advertising budget of \$250 for the two local papers and allow the Autumnfest Committee of Jeff Conger, Tony Wallace and Cindy Knight to make arrangements as necessary passed unanimously.

Growin' Owen:

Allison reported that the group has not been as active lately but the watering crew has been keeping things looking good. Cindy Cardinal and Linda Barna were mentioned as having done a bit of weeding in the project areas. The AIB Symposium was discussed and due to work schedules and returning to school this Fall, Allison and Billy are not able to attend the symposium in October. Scheduling conflicts for the next week of watering were discussed and resolved. A Milbert/Martine motion and second to recommend to the council that Travis and Nicole Rogers attend the AIB Symposium in St. Charles, Illinois from October 3-5, Symposium fee of \$345 each plus three nights of hotel accommodations passed unanimously. Mileage will not be applicable.

AARP Grant/Trackless Electric Train:

The City of Owen has been awarded a \$5,000 grant submitted in the Spring. The grant was written to the National AARP Committee and we were denied in June. The Wisconsin AARP Director contacted Swiggum and offered a state level grant of the same amount for our project. The Owen Public Housing has committed \$5,000 to this project as well bringing upfront donations to \$10,000. The total cost delivered to Chicago is \$22,000 approximately and the DRC could do the fundraising for the rest. We need to be able to tell the Wisconsin AARP Director that we will sign the grant contract this week. This had been discussed previously and other groups had shown an interest in donating if the AARP grant came through. A T. Rogers/N. Rogers motion and second to commit the DRC/Growin' Owen Funding as backup to sign the agreement and order the train passed unanimously.

Set Committee meetings:

Growin' Owen, 9/9 at noon, L.A.S.T. Ace Bar. **Car Show:** none scheduled, **Autumnfest:** Per Jeff, Tony and Cindy.

Next meeting will be held on **October 3rd, 6 pm. at City Hall.**

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Martine at 7:08pm.

Submitted by Tim Swiggum