

Minutes
Moline Centre Main Street Commission
4:00 p.m.
Monday, May 18, 2015

The Moline Centre Main Street Commission meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m. The Commission met in regular session in the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce offices.

Attendance:

Commission Members Present:

Matt Sivertsen, The Planning Center, Inc.
Lori Turner, City of Moline
Gary Freeman, Retired
Frank Ege, QCCVB
David Fortin, DF2 Consulting
Jeff Anderson, City of Moline

Commission Members Absent

Amy Trimble, WaterMark Corners
Beth Lagomarcino, Lagomarcino's
Omar Bradley, Revive Community Development
Chris, Schram, ConStruct Services
Hector Colon, Retiree

Staff Members Present

Adam Holland, Moline Centre
Terri Smith, Moline Centre

Adam Holland introduced new Commission Member, Dave Fortin. Dave indicated that he worked at John Deere for 38 years and retired 4 years ago. Deere hired him back immediately after retirement. Dave also owns his own consulting firm, DF2 Consulting, and has lived in Moline most of his life. He and his wife have 2 children plus grandkids.

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Approval of Minutes

Dave Fortin made a motion to approve the minutes from our April 27 meeting. Gary Freeman seconded the motion. Motion was approved by the entire Board.

AGENDA ITEM #2 - Design

Adam Holland stated that the City of Moline has adopted new Sidewalk Café Guidelines utilizing ADA compliant rules and regulations. These new guidelines detail outdoor food and beverage use, barriers, furniture and fixtures, signage and more. Businesses interested in serving food and beverages outside will have to fill out a site plan and provide it to Christ Mathias at the City.

There are 3 façade improvement applications in-process. Kosama Fitness and Cruz Cutz are not among these applicants, but may apply at a future date. Adam Holland asked Commission Members to spread the word about this worthwhile program.

Jeff Anderson was asked by the Historic Preservation Committee to approach the Main Street Commission and see if they would be interested in assisting them with the re-creation of the historic walking tour, which is currently put on by Curt Roseman. The HPC would like to explore a tour that would eliminate an individual's presence, and possibly utilize building plaques, QR codes, web site tours, etc. Jeff indicated that there was a concept in the Moline Centre Plan, called Heritage Walk, that would educate people coming into downtown about Moline's history. This type of program/plan reinforces downtown circulation and drives economic development into Moline Centre.

Gary Freeman suggested that a tour could be coordinated through the web site. QR codes are good ideas but they can become outdated. He also volunteered to work with HPC on this idea.

Matt Sivertsen felt having a Moline historical reference of some sort was very relevant.

Jeff Anderson indicated that he will be writing up a grant application to fund start-up costs for this program and wanted to know if the SSA's would like to partner up with this. He indicated that we could start with a downtown tour and then possibly expand it into the entire city.

After a lengthy discussion Adam Holland asked Jeff to inform the HPC that a small group of Commission members would be happy to meet and discuss this idea with them in the near future.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Economic Update

Adam Holland stated that the Chase Bank Building is the latest prospect for residential conversion. Russell Real Estate and hotel developer, Amin Group, have purchased the 9-story building. They are undertaking a study now, but intend to create corporate apartments on the upper floors and maintain the first floor commercial space.

The new owner of the Barnett building remains anonymous. We do know that it will be fully occupied and utilized. Barnett's is moving towards the west end of 5th Avenue, near Birdsell Chiropractic.

The Kosama Fitness project is moving forward. They are hoping for a mid-July opening date.

Cruz Cuts will be moving their business from 7th Street to 5th Avenue, next door to Kosama Fitness. Cruz Cuts is in the process of making some small improvements to the building. This move should take place in the next few weeks.

Flutter of the Quad Cities hosted their Grand Opening on May 9th. This is a women's specialty boutique located on 13th Street, where the old MudPuddleRoo store was housed.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Promotions

Adam Holland reminded everyone that Race for the Cure will take place downtown on Saturday, June 13th. Approximately 8,000 people will be attending. Many of the businesses will be hosting after parties, serving breakfast, having live concerts, etc., in order to keep folks downtown.

The Thursday Night Summer Concert Series at the Plaza on Bass Street Landing, begins June 4th with the Tailfins. We have 8 of the 9 concerts sponsored and, we have 4 media sponsors on board. There will also be live remotes.

The 2015 Moline Centre Summer Events Guide has been completed. Adam Holland explained that the Dispatch staff seeks advertising for the benefit of this guide, and we provide them with a list of events that take place downtown. There will be 45,000 copies of the guide printed. 42,000 will be inserted in the Sunday, May 24th, Dispatch/Argus. The remainder will be distributed to downtown Moline Centre businesses. Adam stated that he will take several copies over to Riverbend Commons. Alcoa, Deere and KONE interns are staying there this summer and this will be a good reference for them regarding Moline Centre activities. Jeff Anderson asked if the guide would be posted electronically. Adam said that he would check it out and let Jeff know.

The Microbrew Mile is another event that takes place in Moline Centre on June 20th. This will be a one mile and 6k road race. There will be lots of craft beer, music and food.

The new Moline Centre web site is up and running at www.molinecentre.org. Adam Holland asked everyone to please take a look at it and report back to him if they find any problems. He stated that this is a very fluid site with a lot of information. He is working with Amy to create a card that has the website QR code on it for distribution.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Other Business

Adam Holland handed out draft & original versions of the by-laws and asked that the Commission review these so that we can discuss at our next meeting.

Frank Ege asked if we could also include famous people from Moline in the downtown history tour.

Adam Holland indicated that our July meeting is scheduled for July 20th. He wanted to know if we could reschedule for July 13th or July 27th. After a brief discussion, members felt the July 13th meeting would work. We will need to reach out to the absent Commission members to see what date works for them.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The JULY meeting is tentatively re-scheduled to July 13th. We need to confirm this date with other Commission Members.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Smith.