

**Bass Street Landing SSA #5
Board Meeting
November 16, 2015
3:00pm
Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
1601 River Drive, Suite 310**

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Laurie Peters, Ruhl Commercial
Lew Steinbrecher, City of Moline
Denise Browning for Dan Hance, Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center

Board Members Absent:

Mike Wennekamp, Two Rivers YMCA
Rodney Blackwell, Financial District Properties

Staff Present:

Adam Holland
Terri Smith

The SSA #5 Board Meeting was called to order at 3:00 P.M.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of Minutes

Laurie Peters made a motion to approve the minutes. Lew Steinbrecher seconded the motion. The minutes from our August 17th meeting were approved by all members.

Agenda Item 2: Budget Review

Adam Holland presented the board members with a copy of a budget worksheet; with numbers up-to-date through October. He pointed out that the current property tax total is \$192,748. The 2015 budgeted number was \$147,230. The overage is a result of a taxpayer paying his delinquent 2014 property tax (of \$71,278.68) in January of 2015.

Adam Holland informed the board that he had been approached by Jim Bowman, of Snowstar, about possibly reinstating the ice rink this year. Snowstar indicated that they would need some monetary assistance to get the project rolling. The Board members concurred that it may not be a cost-effective use of limited property tax revenues to subsidize the private operation of this ice skating rink which has not demonstrated an ability to be a profitable enterprise. After a brief discussion, the Board made a decision to decline the partnership. Adam Holland indicated that he would contact Snowstar and let them know that we would not be interested in the project at this time.

Adam Holland advised the Board that we have received proposals to hang Christmas lights on 17th Street and on River Drive. Bids for 17th Street were \$2,400 and the River Drive bid was \$1,900. The 2015 lighting budget is \$2,000. Lew Steinbrecher asked if there were enough electrical outlets on River Drive.

Adam Holland replied that there were, but some may need to be repaired. Lew Steinbrecher indicated that Public Works might be able to make repairs to any broken receptacles.

Lew Steinbrecher made a motion to approve adding \$4,000 to the holiday lighting budget, which would bring the total to \$6,000. (\$2,400 for 17th Street, \$1,900 for River Drive and approximately \$1,700 for broken receptacles). Laurie Peters seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all members.

Agenda Item 3: 2016 Work Plan

Adam Holland passed out a copy of the 2016 Work Plan. He made note of the following items:

1. We will continue to work with city staff on the outdoor dining issue. Our goal is to remain business friendly while addressing the needs and safety concerns with the city. We also want to make certain that this issue is not cost prohibitive to the business owner.
2. Our "Get Jazzed" event will be altered to showcase it as an economic element, in lieu of a traditional promotional occasion. In prior years, the event was limited to one weekend. This year it will be spread over three weekends in November. The open house weekend is November 13th & 14th. The second weekend, November 21st, will be Lighting on the Commons, and the third weekend will be November 28th, Small Business Saturday. We also need to create brand awareness for this event in the future.
3. Lew Steinbrecher asked how often we met with the downtown business owners. Adam Holland said that merchants meet on the second Thursday of every month. Business owners meet to discuss special event, promotions, etc. It is a great way for everyone to meet up with their neighbor, find out about current events in downtown and work together on any issues that may arise.

After a brief review of the remainder of the Work Plan, Laurie Peters made a motion to approve the 2016 Work Plan. Denise Browning seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all members.

Agenda Item 4: Meeting Times

Adam Holland asked the board if the established meeting dates will work for everyone in 2016. Currently the board meets on the third Monday in the second month of each quarter at 3:00 p.m. Everyone agreed to leave meeting times the same for 2016. There will be an annual meeting in January, as stated in the by-laws.

Agenda Item 5: Other Business

Denise Browning announced that the Great Race will take place in downtown Moline on June 26, 2016. This event will bring several thousand people into our area.

Adam Holland stated that two photo eyes on the Plaza were replaced this year and the fountain has been winterized.

Lew Steinbrecher asked Adam Holland if he had talked to Steel Head Tavern about sign placement in the grassy area by their business. Adam Holland indicated that he had talked with the owner. Lew Steinbrecher asked if there had been any damage to the irrigation system, when they placed stakes in the ground. He replied that there did not seem to be any destruction to the system.

Laurie Peters asked when the landscaping begins in the spring, if they could bury the irrigation lines. Many of the pipes are above ground and look unattractive. Lew Steinbrecher asked Adam Holland to have someone look at the lines and give us an idea on alternative irrigation systems and costs. He also asked to have this item placed on the January agenda.

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **January 11, 2016**. This will be the annual meeting.