



**Moline Centre Main Street Commission
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
4:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, December 16th, 2020

Teleconference Call

Commission Members Present

Chris Mathias, City of Moline
Chelsey Hohensee, Metrolink
Amanda Bautista, Café Fresh
Ajay Singh, Heart of America
Lora Adams, Black Box Theater
Eric VanSpeyBroeck, Rouse Consulting Group
Andrew Sivertsen, Planning Center
Dave Parker, City of Moline (2nd Ward Alderman)

Commission Members Absent

Pete McDermott, McDermott Construction

Staff Present

Geoff Manis

AGENDA ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:03 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – PUBLIC COMMENT

None

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from November 18, 2020, was made by Chelsey Hohensee. Chris Mathias seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Holiday Pop Up - Update

Manis updated the Commission on the MidAmerican Energy Holiday Pop Up and their \$5,000 sponsorship. The Moline Centre to date has been able to facilitate 34 Holiday Pop Up scavenger hunts with gift cards from 32 downtown businesses. To date, \$4,500 have been distributed with six more scavenger hunts left. Manis explained that he did exceed the \$5,000 sponsorship by \$200 which was not his intent.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – 2021 Strategy Discussion

Manis wanted to gather the Commission's input on the 2021 strategy of events. He would like to put on the Thursday Night Summer Concert Series in 2021 and the process of scheduling bands would normally begin in January. The series begins the Thursday after Memorial Day weekend to the Thursday before Labor Day weekend. Promotion of

bands normally begins in March and Manis has until 5:00 p.m. the day of the concert to cancel with no payment administered. Manis would like to continue the event even if the COVID-19 Pandemic is still going on. Rock Island was able to have their concerts at Schwiebert Riverfront Park safely this last year and Manis believes they could creatively do the same. He would also like to do fireworks to kick off the season with the City's Corporate Counsel's approval. Consensus of the Commission was to move forward with the Thursday Night Summer Concert Series and come back with a quote on fireworks.

Manis explained he is actively working towards putting out a request for proposal for parklets. CURES Fund money may be able to help fund this endeavor since this would help bars and restaurants during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Consensus of the Commission was to continue moving forward with parklets and they would like to have them ready for the outdoor dining season to get their full use.

Manis reported that he will be working on the request for proposals for the John Deere Pavilion Trees again. The COVID-19 Pandemic created chaos when the project was supposed to take place this last year.

Manis stated he is moving forward on the Arsenal Bridge mural with the Quad City Arts. The Commission will have the final say on the project as they are giving \$10,000 towards the project.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Other Business

At Manis' request, the Commission Members each explained how the COVID-19 Pandemic affected them and their businesses. Manis and Hohensee explained that with the Multi-Modal Station ready for business minus the Amtrak, it was important to incorporate it into the larger Downtown. Manis was able to work with Hohensee, MetroLink and All Around Town to get holiday lighting put up there for continuity in downtown. He reported that a new restaurant, Meli's Pancake House, opened in Downtown Moline and Lopies Pizza is moving into Analog II. He also noted the CDBG Forgivable Loan Program is now available for small businesses to apply. Manis explained he and Mayor Acri are working with Rock Island as they are actively working to get a Special Service Area set up there. Manis also stated that he has been working out of the Community & Economic Development Director's office, and with the City actively looking to hire a new director, he is now moving to the City Hall Mezzanine Office. Manis presented to the Commission a photo of Downtown Moline that was taken following the Spanish Flu. He will be giving a copy to each of the Commission members. In closing, Manis presented the holiday drone video of Moline his brother created on behalf of the City's Corporate Counsel, Derke Price. The Commission thanked Manis for all his hard work in Downtown Moline and throughout the entire City.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Adjourn

Andrew Sivertsen made a motion to adjourn. Dave Parker seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Fawn Schultz, Community & Economic Development Administrative Assistant