



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

Wednesday, February 17th, 2021

Commission Members Present

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

Commission Members Absent

Eric VanSpeyBroeck, Rouse Consulting Group

Staff Present

Geoff Manis

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:02 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Public Comment

None

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from January 20, 2021, was made by Ajay Singh. Dave Parker seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – John Deere Pavilion Tree Bids – Action Item

Manis presented the John Deere Pavilion Tree Bids to the Board from Meyer Landscape and Design, Inc, Earthworks Design, Inc and Heritage Landscape Design. Meyer Landscape and Design, Inc had the best bid in overall price point, however, Staff's recommendation is to award the bid to Earthworks Design, Inc primarily because of their background and experience in having done similar work in Rock Island, Davenport and outside of the Quad Cities Region. Meyer Landscape and Design, Inc would be newer to this type of work. Manis also explained the City's Arborist recommended American Hornbeams, Redbud and Serviceberry trees for planting but Earthworks Design, Inc recommended shade trees, Hornbeam and Maple due to Serviceberry and Redbud being fruit bearing trees which can create a mess with the high foot traffic. Furthermore, the Moline Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is going to use this project as a fundraiser to sponsor trees. The trees will not have plaques but the kiosk will have a poster up indicating the partnership. Anticipated start date for excavation to begin would be April,

weather permitting. The Board discussed and suggestions were made to make this project part of Arbor Day and to have a start date weather permitting and an approximate finish date for the project.

A motion to accept the bid from Earthworks Design, Inc for the John Deere Pavilion Trees was made by Pete McDermott. Dave Parker seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Parklet RFP Discussion

Manis updated the Board on the Parklet Program and looked to the Board for direction on how to proceed. One option is to start with the Black Hawk College Apprenticeship Program and have them build a prototype. Once the prototype is built, the specifications can be put into the Request for Proposal (RFP) for contractors to bid on. The City has worked with the Apprenticeship Program in the past and the Apprenticeship Program is interested in the project. However, they would not be able to build all the parklets and they would not be able to begin until April or May. The second option is to build an RFP now, put all the information into it and send it out as soon as possible. Interested contractors would then come up with their own visions on how to build the parklet. Corporate Counsel already provided the body of an RFP and images could be built into it as an example of what the build should resemble. Manis spoke with Corporate Counsel and CURES Act Funding could be used to pay for the parklets. Manis opened it up for discussion. The Commission discussed storage, feasibility for restaurants, furniture, various forms of parklets, locations, business interest, materials and the soon approaching outdoor dining season.

A motion to begin the Request for Proposal process for parklets now was made by Ajay Singh. Chris Mathias seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Manis stated his timeline would be to have the draft RFP ready for review at the next meeting, the RFP due in April, proposals ready for Board approval at the April meeting and have parklets start showing up in May.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Downtown Events Partnership(s) Discussion

Manis explained he is posturing the idea to have a grant program based out of the SSA tax levy to provide police protection at Downtown Moline events. The cost of police protection is a huge burden to events and sometimes is the reason they do not occur. Manis is going to discuss this item with the Events Committee and would like to discuss it with the Board in the future.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Director's Report

Manis stated he will not be able to attend the next Board Meeting on March 17th so he would like to move the meeting to March 10th or March 24th. Consensus of the Board is to reschedule the March 17th Meeting for March 10th.

Dave Parker brought up two items for discussion on the Mayor's behalf. The first item was interest in restarting downtown parking enforcement by the Police Department. Consensus of the Board was to not enforce parking at this time. The second item was interest in getting the large snow piles in Downtown Moline removed with the expense coming from SSA #6. Consensus of the Board was interest for the next snow season since it will be warming up in the next couple of weeks.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Adjourn

Pete McDermott made a motion to adjourn. Chelsey Hohensee seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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