



## **Moline Centre Main Street Commission**

**Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 15, 2023**  
**4:00 p.m.**

Moline City Hall – Council Chamber  
619 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Moline, IL 61265

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Members Present: Kirk Marske, Moline Centre Program Manager  
Ajay Singh  
Amy Trimble  
Arturo Salinas  
James Patrick Schmidt, Alderman  
Christiana Headley

Staff/Attendees: Alexandra Elias, Renew Moline  
Crystal Beale, Renew Moline

Absent: Ryan Hvitlok, City of Moline  
Eric VanSpeybroeck  
Andrew Sivertsen  
Chelsey Hohensee  
Nick Bowes  
Lora Adams

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Kirk Marske at 4:00 p.m.

➤ Moline Centre Main Street Commission bylaws overview

Due to the confusion of the combined sessions, Kirk reported that he has been researching the bylaws of the SSA#6 Board of Directors and the Moline Centre Main Street Commission. Each organization has a different purpose and meeting requirements. The main function of the SSA#6 board is to manage contracts and budgets for Special Service Area 6, whereas the Moline Centre Main Street Main Street Commission is set up to guide the City's Moline Centre Program. Going forward these meetings will be separate and operate on the meeting schedules outlined in the bylaws.

Kirk has also been working to locate verified maps of SSA#6 and the Moline Centre Main Street Program. Verification of the SSA#6 map arrived after the Commission agenda packet was distributed, so it was provided for this meeting, but the City's GIS Department provided a SSA#6 map aligned with City Code defining the special service area. The City also included a "Moline Main Street Designated Area" map in their 2008 Illinois Main Street application, and that is the map for the Moline Centre Program. Kirk noted that the program area extends beyond SSA#5 and SSA#6, and it includes the Vibrant Arena and Mercado on Fifth. Alderman Schmidt asked if this map was impacted by the bridge moving. Kirk said he is not sure, but he didn't think there were any merchants in the area in question. He also said a new map could be drawn should the City re-apply for the Illinois Main Street Program.

Kirk also explained that the required membership for each organization is specified in the bylaws.

SSA#6 should all be property owners within SSA#6 or nominated by the property owner. However, the Main Street Commission is made up of a minimum of seven members – a City staff member, a representative of the SSA#6 Board, four citizens, and a City Council Representative. The Moline Centre Program Manager is a non-voting committee member that serves as the Commission's project manager. Officers for the Commission are president, vice president, and secretary. The terms are three years and those serving cannot serve in two consecutive terms. Ajay asked if any members are exceeding their term, and Kirk stated no one is exceeding their term but a few members are coming to the end of their term. Amy and Ajay asked if Kirk could email the members on the Commission and the term information, and it was noted that the information is on the City's website with the roster for the Commission and SSA #6. Alderman Schmidt stated there are several City ordinances documents which conflict with the bylaws. The City ordinances allow the range of seven to fifteen members on the Main Street Commission. There was a discussion around terms, term limits and eligibility. Kirk agreed to look into some things including whether the ordinance adopting the Commission conflicts with the Bylaws.

#### ➤ Main Street Commission and Moline Centre Merchant Meeting Alignment

Kirk stated his goal is to serve the Moline merchants at the direction of the Main Street Commission. To do this he would like to find a connection between the two groups. The Moline merchants bring issues that fall under the responsibility of the Main Street Commission. The communication between the two groups is essential. This could be accomplished in a few different ways. A Moline merchant could bring the issue to the Main Street Commission meeting or Kirk could bring the messages to the Commission. This would empower the Moline merchants with advice and assistance from the Commission. For example, the last issue that was brought to Kirk was the issue of transportation from downtown "after hours", since the City has no solution for this at the moment. Another issue could be parking safety. In addition to the Commission helping the Moline merchants, he would like to find a way for the Moline merchant to be more cohesive.

Alderman Schmidt mentioned there are past ordinances that were suspended due to Covid that should have been reissued. None of these are of top priority as they have no timeline, but Kirk should be aware of them in case he is approached regarding one of these issues. One is the parking requirements, and these could return at the request of a Moline merchant due the lack of parking for their customers. Another was the parklets and patio dining. There still should be guidelines followed such as no drilling into the sidewalk and no obstruction of the sidewalk.

➤ Illinois Main Street Program update

In 2015 or 2016 the State of Illinois stopped funding and support of the Illinois Main Street Program. There are a few somewhat local locations on the Illinois Main Street Program which include, Silvis and a few areas in Chicago. Kirk would like to reapply when the application period is open in June. The other option is to pay for a general membership, which is between \$250 to \$350. The application is an extensive process. The organization visits the applicant's community and there are requirements that must be met. There is a statewide conference in October and a nationwide conference in the spring.

No public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Crystal Beale, Renew Moline staff.