

Minutes
Moline Centre Main Street Commission
City Hall, 619 – 16th Street
Monday, January 21, 2012

The Moline Centre Main Street Commission meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m. The Commission met in regular session in the Committee of the Whole Meeting Room at City Hall.

Attendance: Those present were as follows:

Commission Members Present:

Amy Trimble
Patrick Burke
Jim Ohern
Gary Freeman
Lori Turner
Hector Colon

Commission Members Absent

Frank Ege

Staff Members Present

Pam Owens
Terri Smith
Rebecca Gall

Minutes: Lori Turner made a motion to approve the minutes and Pat Burke seconded. Motion accepted.

Budget Report:

Pamela Owens reported the following:

1. Pam passed out a combined budget report for both SSA #5 and SSA #6, which included final numbers for 2012 and 2013. These reports reflected SSA #5 - 2012 YTD numbers coming in under budget at approximately \$6,552 and SSA #6 - 2012 YTD numbers also coming in under budget at approximately \$8,980. A question was asked regarding the Phase III projected total costs. Pat indicated that costs will be less than \$3,000,000. The \$100,000 per year number that is set aside in the budget report represents SSA #6 contribution towards the streetscape.

Coordinator Report:

Pam Owens reported the following:

1. Holiday décor. Pam indicated that business owners and downtown patrons have been thrilled with the Christmas decorations. Everyone is looking forward to having the decorations again next year.
2. Ice rink. Even though there were difficulties in the beginning with the rink, they have finally ironed out all the wrinkles and are running more efficiently. There was some concern regarding the generator this year, but next year MidAmerica will be hooking up a power source and the rink will not be utilizing any type of generator, only a chiller unit.

3. Pam reported that RiverStation will be completely leased up this year. There will also be a new hotel in the former JD Collectors Center. It will either be a Hilton or Hyatt.
4. Phillips Lofts is now renting.
5. Façade update. \$42,490 was distributed in 2012. Recipients included, Le Mekong, Chris Townsend (KJMC Properties), Phillips Lofts, Luchair Designs and The Planning Center (Covariance Holdings). Total project costs/investments for 2012 were reported to be \$2,404,303. Rebecca Gall reported that she has created a new façade application which will combine four of the programs that the city will offer. These programs will now expand to beyond the downtown area.
6. Discussion ensued regarding downtown art program/guidelines. We will be hosting a downtown training program in the future which will include someone from IHP. We are hoping IHP will be able to offer some assistance in this area.
7. 5th Avenue Streetscape. Pam reported they will begin Phase III in the spring. Two entrances on 5th Avenue will be eliminated between 12th & 13th Street. Property owners in that area have been notified.

Events & Promotions Report:

Pam Owens reported the following:

1. In conjunction with this year's pub crawl, we would like to incorporate a fund raiser for Mike Reddish (owner of Twenty) who is reported to have pancreatic cancer. We will not be utilizing Euclid for the event this year.
2. Summer Concert Series. Bent River has agreed to help us on The Plaza this year. Gary Freeman asked if we should be offering this venue to other bars/restaurants downtown. Bent River has a Distributor's Liquor license, which most of the downtown bars do not have, and allows them to have unlimited venues outside of their business. We will also be looking into serving food on The Plaza this year and will have to go through all the proper channels to make this happen.

Gary Freeman asked if there was a better way to promote the concerts. A discussion ensued regarding ideas to promote this venue.

New Business:

1. Pam reported that she is putting together a downtown Business Owners survey. This will be a very brief survey asking basic questions of the business owners. Amy Trimble agreed to donate one gift certificate as an incentive for completing the survey.
2. Rebecca Gall distributed a Business Owner Guide (BOG) folder that she has been working on. This packet contains vital information for out downtown business owners. She indicated that she will be meeting with Department Heads and asking them for their thoughts on what additional information might be needed to include within that packet.
3. Another Mexican restaurant has opened up downtown called Las Rajas. Funky Desi is another new Indian restaurant that will open up shortly. Rebecca also announced that Le Mekong will have their grand re-opening on January 23rd.
4. Gary Freeman asked if we could provide them a downtown Arial map for use in our meetings so that we could point out business locations during our discussions.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15.

The next meeting will be held March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Smith