

Minutes
Moline Centre Main Street Commission
4:00 p.m.
Monday, June 15, 2015

The Moline Centre Main Street Commission meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m. The Commission met in regular session in the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce offices.

Commission Members Present:

Matt Sivertsen, The Planning Center, Inc.
Amy Trimble, WaterMark Corners
Beth Lagomarcino's, Lagomarcino's
Omar Bradley, Revive Community Development
Chris Schram, ConStruct Services
Gary Freeman, Retired
Frank Ege, QCCVB
David Fortin, DF2 Consulting
Jeff Anderson, City of Moline

Commission Members Absent

Lori Turner, City of Moline
Hector Colon, Retiree

Staff Members Present

Adam Holland, Moline Centre
Terri Smith, Moline Centre

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Approval of Minutes

Matt Sivertsen made a motion to approve the minutes from our May 18th meeting. Omar Bradley seconded the motion. Motion was approved by the entire Board.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – By-Laws

Adam Holland projected a copy of the Main Street By-Laws on a screen for all members to review. He indicated that Amy Keys, attorney from the City of Moline, had provided some feedback on this document as did Amy Trimble. He stated that one of the biggest changes would be the addition of a Chairperson, Vice Chair and a Secretary. Adam Holland asked the Commission if they had found any changes/recommendations that needed to be addressed. Beth Lagomarcino asked about the annual meeting requirement. Adam indicated that it would take place in December. Amy Trimble suggested having it during a November, December or January Merchant's Meeting so that we would have more attendees and discuss our accomplishments over the year.

After a brief discussion about the content of the by-laws, Adam Holland told the Commission that he would make appropriate changes and send out to the Commission for final review. Once amendments

are approved, we will nominate appropriate officers at our next meeting, and then have all officials approve the amended by-laws.

Amy Trimble asked that we add this Commission to the monthly Merchant Meeting reminders.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Commission Members

Adam Holland projected a list of the current Commission Members to the wall screen for review.

According to our records, Frank Ege will be retired from the Commission as of June 30, 2015, after serving two terms.

Hector Colon's first term is also up on June 30, 2015. He has advised us that he does not wish to seek a second term.

Gary Freeman and Beth Lagomarcino's first terms are up on June 30, 2015. Both individuals indicated that they would like to volunteer for a second term.

Adam Holland stated that this would leave us with a 9 member Commission. He asked members if that was a satisfactory number. Beth Lagomarcino suggested inviting individuals from different businesses, such as bankers, lawyers, etc. Amy Trimble asked if we are losing two individuals, would that create an issue with quorum? After a short discussion, Adam Holland stated that we could make a determination on this matter at a later date.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Work Plan Update

Adam Holland projected a copy of the Moline Centre Work Plan on a screen to review with the Commission. (Attached) Comments as follows:

Focus 1, Strategy 1

This strategy is ongoing and has seen success. We now have a new retailer, Flutter of the Quad Cities, and we have established a relationship with WIU. Adam Holland also thanked Amy Trimble for keeping their business in Moline.

Focus 1, Strategy 2

This strategy is ongoing. We have maintained monthly Merchant Meetings, continue to serve as a City conduit and have completed a web-based restaurant map.

Focus 1, Strategy 3

This strategy is ongoing. A bi-weekly newsletter continues to be published, highlighting downtown events and business owners. Adam Holland asked the Commission if there was anyone in particular that they would like to hear from and we would put them on the agenda for future meetings.

Focus 2, Strategy 1

This strategy is ongoing. Members have met with public works and are in the process of determining how they can work together on certain projects and sharing costs.

Focus 2, Strategy 2

The outdoor dining guidelines have been established, but this will be an ongoing issue.

Beth Lagomarcino stated that the barriers are not cost effective and many business owners will not be able to afford these new regulations. Adam Holland stated that three site plans have been submitted to the City and if anyone was interested in asking for assistance with costs, they should submit a site plan and material quote to him.

Beth suggested that business owners be given leniency for the first year. Adam Holland reminded the Commission that we could still advocate for changes. Everyone wants a vibrant looking downtown and the addition of outdoor seating adds to that aspect. Beth recommended holding meetings for business owners that are interested in outdoor dining, so that they could discuss their concerns.

We will continue to work on this strategy throughout the year.

Focus 2, Strategy 3

Improved Way Finding and parking signage is part of Phase II and will be covered in that program. As we move through the summer there will be wider body workshops specifically geared towards downtown.

Beth Lagomarcino asked the Commission to be cognizant when they are travelling, and notice way finding in other cities, that might be useful in Moline.

Adam Holland stated that we are creating a map for our kiosks.

Focus 2, Strategy 4

This strategy is also being addressed through Phase II and is ongoing.

Focus 2, Strategy 5

This strategy is ongoing. We will continue potted plant installation, litter removal, lawn and weed control.

Focus 2, Strategy 6

The Façade Program is now housed under the City. Moline Centre still promotes this opportunity. A brochure has been created for the program and the application has been updated. Some Commission members asked if they could be advised of additional funding programs that are available. We may bring in additional speakers to advise every one of those programs.

Focus 2, Strategy 7

We will continue holiday lighting along 5th Avenue. Since lights have been purchased by the SSA, costs from this point forward will be for installation and, possibly, some replacement bulbs.

Focus 3, Strategy 1

This strategy is ongoing. The Summer Concert Series has begun. We have 8 of the 9 concerts sponsored this year. The Cabin Fever Pub Crawl was very successful this year. Bar owners had indicated an interest in moving the date into April, because they have two very busy March weekends; St. Patrick's Day and the NCAA tournament. As a result of this move, we had 12 bars involved. Get Jazzed for the Holidays and Lighting on the Commons were also well received. There will not be a Mallards game after the LOC this year, so we need to come up with alternative ideas for this event.

Focus 3, Strategy 2

The new website is up and running. We continue to send out a bi-weekly newsletter and FB posts. This strategy is ongoing.

Focus 4, Strategy 1

We have recruited new members to the Commission/Boards. This strategy is ongoing.

Focus 4, Strategy 2

This strategy is ongoing. Adam Holland meets frequently with City staff to discuss MCMS goals.

Focus 4, Strategy 3

The Illinois Main Street Program is in limbo as a result of significant budget cuts. We are waiting to hear from the state as to how they are going to proceed. The state conference is in June and will take place in Carbondale. Jeff Anderson will be attending. This strategy is ongoing.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Design Update

The Design Committee is now housed under the City of Moline. Moline Centre will continue to market the program.

Three businesses have sent in site plans to the City for review in conjunction with the outdoor dining guidelines.

AGENDA ITEMS #6 – Economic Update

Cruz Cuts has moved to their new location on 5th Avenue.

Kosama fitness may open their doors by July 1st

The Scrapbooking Studio is moving a few doors east.

Barnett's has moved to their new location on 14th Street. The new owner of their old building still wishes to remain anonymous.

A new Taco & Tequila bar will be opening in the near future. They are located next door to Bad Boyz.

Adam Holland announced that he had previously toured the old La Primavera building. He indicated that it is a great location/opportunity for someone looking to open a new restaurant. It is move-in ready. The sale price for the building is approximately \$200,000. If anyone knows of an interested buyer, they should contact him.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Promotions

Race for the Cure took place on Saturday, June 13th. Many businesses partnered with the race and offered specials. Approximately 6,000 people were downtown.

Adam Holland announced that he had been approached by an outside food vendor who wanted to know if he could set up a booth at one of the Thursday Night Concerts. Omar Bradley indicated that we should give this opportunity to our downtown merchants first. Amy Trimble asked if wanted to take away business from our existing vendors. After a brief discussion Adam Holland stated that we will advise the vendor that we are going to hold off allowing vendors for the rest of this year and revisit this issue next year.

The Microbrew Mile is this Saturday, June 20th. The planners had asked if they could set up a 10 x 10 tent at the concert to promote the race. The Commission felt this would reasonable, only if there was enough room on the Plaza and because it was a Moline Centre event.

Adam Holland announced that an event called “Slide the City” will take place on August 8th. A huge slide will be set up on 15th Street and people will be able to slip down the street. Amy Trimble announced that their FB page already had 6,000 people indicating that they will be attending. Adam Holland stated that we need to meet with downtown merchants and see if they would like to become involved and have some type of event where the slide ends, on 8th Avenue. Amy Trimble suggested setting up a separate merchant’s meeting. We definitely need to plan on having some type of event since we will have so many folks downtown. Butterworth Park is located on 15th Street & 7th Avenue. We might be able to hold an event there. Jeff Anderson reminded everyone that any alcohol served in a park would have to go through council. Adam Holland will reach out to our business owners so that they are aware of the event.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

The JULY meeting has been re-scheduled to July 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Smith.