

**Moline Centre Main Street Commission Minutes
4:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

**Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce
1601 River Drive, Suite 310
Moline, IL**

The Moline Centre Main Street Commission meeting came to order at 4:10 p.m. The Commission met in regular session in the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce offices.

Commission Members Present:

Dave Parker, City of Moline (2nd Ward Alderman)
Chelsey Hohensee, Metrolink
Dave Fortin, DF2 Consulting
Jeff Anderson, City of Moline (Staff)
Peter McDermott, McDermott Construction
Ajay Singh, Heart of America (HOA)

Commission Members Absent

Matt Sivertsen, The Planning Center
Beth Lagomarcino, Lagomarcino's
Omar Bradley, First State Bank

Staff Members Present

Adam Holland
Terri Smith

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Public Comment

Amy Trimble, from WaterMark Corners asked Adam Holland to read a letter to the Board on her behalf. (She was unable to attend this meeting. Letter is attached). After the reading, Board Members made the following comments:

1. Do they (Scottish Rite property owners) have any objection contributing to the SSA?
2. Would we be setting a precedent for others that are just outside of the SSA who would also like to be included?
3. Would this be offensive to existing members?
4. What would need to be done procedurally to have them be included within the existing SSA?

After a brief discussion, Jeff Anderson indicated that he would check into the legalities regarding this matter and report back to the Board as soon as he has answers.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the December 20, 2017 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept these minutes was made by Jeff Anderson. Dave Fortin seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Notes from the January 17, 2018 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept these notes was made by Chelsey Hohensee. Ajay Singh seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Notes from the February 21, 2018 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept these notes was made by Dave Fortin. Jeff Anderson seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Committee Appointments

During the last few meetings we have talked about establishing Committees that support the Main Street 4-point approach. The Design Committee is already in place. We need to create additional sub-committees/groups.

All of these sub-committees would meet once a month, prior to the Main Street Commission meeting, so that they would be able to report to us at that time. (Once committees are established, the President of each group can set up those meetings.)

Jeff Anderson asked that once the committees are established that they review the work plan to align themselves with our goals.

After further discussion, Ajay Singh made a motion to form the following committees; Economic Development, Promotion and SIT (Streetscape, Infrastructure and Transportation). Dave Parker seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – National Main Street Proposal

As discussed in prior meetings, the Illinois Main Street program was suspended approximately 3 years ago during the Illinois budget stalemate. The program was one of the first to be line-itemed out. During that time, the National Main Street program has been working with the state to bring it back. Recently, the National Main Street Center announced the relaunch of the Illinois Main Street Program, which will receive a 3-year, \$225,000 grant from the Driehaus Foundation that will offer training, technical assistance and MS certification directly to communities across the state of Illinois. (See attached for more information).

Adam Holland asked the Board if they would like to opt into the newly re-launched program or continue with only paying \$350. If we stick with the \$350 amount we will be considered an affiliate of Main Street, not an accredited Main Street program. Applications are due on April 6, 2018.

Comments are as follows:

1. What are the consequences if we stay at the current level? We are not certain at this time because the program is in the process of being re-built.
2. If we stay out of the program the first year are we able to convene the following year? Yes.
3. What services have we been provided? None within the last three years, since the program was terminated.
4. Annual membership for the first year is \$1,350 (includes grant money match). Annual membership fees increase in years two and three to \$2,000.

5. At this time, approximately 13-14 communities plan on contributing to the program.
6. Since the new program has not been created, maybe we should wait a year until they have everything in place, before we commit. At that point we would be able to contact other communities and see how the program is working for them.

After a brief discussion, Alderman Parker made a motion to decline participating in the first year launch of the Illinois Main Street Program. Chelsey Hohensee seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Adam Holland stated that he would be meeting with the Illinois Main Street Group at the National Main Street Conference in Kansas City next week and will report his findings back to this group.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Event Update

The Moline Centre Cabin Fever Pub Crawl is right around the corner. It will take place on Saturday, April 7. Currently 13 locations are participating and we expect approximately 500 people. We are working with Stern Beverage on this event.

The 2018 Craft Beer Fest will take place on May 12th from noon to 4:00 p.m. We have several media partners on board to assist and, currently, 13 breweries are participating. We are expecting a total of 18 – 20 breweries. 40 on-line tickets have been sold. We will cap the event at 1,000 paid entries. This year we will have tents, in the case of inclement weather.

All bands for The Thursday Night Summer Concert Series are booked. We currently have 4 band sponsorships signed and were able to renew our stage sponsor, which will pay for sound production.

The Moline Kiwanis Bag Tournament will take place on April 28 at Bad Boyz Pizza.

The Tour De Brew QC will take place on May 5th. It begins in the East Village with the after party taking place at The Plaza at Bass Street Landing. There are 12 pit stops, two being at Bad Boyz and Rebellion in Moline.

A new event will take place in the W Lot (behind The Planning Center/Cup a Jo), called Cars & Coffee. Old car enthusiasts will gather on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This event will take place from April through September.

Taming of the Slough will take place on September 15. They would like to have the event end on The Plaza at Bass Street Landing. They have asked us to consider a \$500 sponsorship. Ajay Singh made a motion to sponsor this year's Taming of the Slough for approximately \$500. Dave Fortin seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Director's Report

Members of the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce made their annual trip to Springfield. They met with several individuals and found out that the Department of Transportation and the International Railroad are speaking with each other to determine a timeline for completion of the rail system. There are no definitive dates for placing the track.

He also indicated that most legislators support the proposed Historic Tax Credit. This is still a work in progress.

There is unanimous support for pension reform.

Moline Centre will be hosting an event with Mel Foster, inviting realtors from the area to find out what our challenges are. After the data is collected, Adam Holland will bring that data back to the commission for discussion. Alderman Parker asked if Retail Strategies should be involved in this meeting. Jeff Anderson indicated that they should be contacted and advised.

Adam Holland advised the commission that we continue having CRTS visits. Our goal is 20 and we have completed 8 meetings.

An updated Work Plan will be sent out after the first quarter.

Terri Smith passed out a proposal from the Dispatch with regard to a 2018 Summer Event Guide. She asked if the Commission would like to move forward with a guide this year. We have spent \$4,342 on marketing through December 2017. (Our fiscal year end is June 30). Moline Centre would be asked to provide \$1,500 towards the project. A minimum of \$4,000 combined revenue will be established to fund the guide. Ad sales will offset the difference.

Alderman Parker made a motion to approve moving forward with the creation of a 2018 Moline Centre Summer Event Guide. Pete McDermott seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Other Business

Jeff Anderson recently attended a Q2030 meeting where the FIGGE had contracted with a company to look at art installations that might lead to art throughout the QC riverfronts. A discussion about the music scene in Davenport arose. That scene is known as “North Nashville”. Many bands find it convenient to make a stop in Davenport using the I-80 corridor. Jeff Anderson indicated that Moline Centre has our own share of concerts and was wondering if there is a way that we could capitalize on this issue and make our events more visible.

The Commission agreed and decided to discuss this matter at future meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 18.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Smith