



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

**Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Moline City Hall/Teleconference Call  
619 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Moline, IL 61265**

**Commission Members Present**

Dave Parker, City of Moline (2nd Ward Alderman)  
Amanda Bautista, Café Fresh  
Lora Adams, Black Box Theater  
Chelsey Hohensee, Metrolink  
Matt Sivertsen, The Planning Center  
Pete McDermott, McDermott Construction

**Commission Members Absent**

Michelle Sparkman, Heart of America  
Ajay Singh, Heart of America

**Staff Present**

Geoff Manis

**Others Present**

None

**AGENDA ITEM #1 – CALL TO ORDER**

Matt Sivertsen called the meeting 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 May 20, 2020, was made by Dave Parker. Amanda Bautista seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM #4 – John Deere Pavilion Trees Update**

Manis updated the Commission on the events to date with the John Deere Pavilion Trees. McClintock Trucking & Excavating (McClintock) was awarded the contract to complete the tree pit excavation consisting of asphalt, tree trunk and root ball removal. The contract for the trees was awarded to Corn Crib Nursery. The work for the John Deere Pavilion Trees was to be completed in Spring of this year. McClintock began work in February removing the asphalt and then the COVID-19 Pandemic came. Due to the initial fears from the Pandemic, Randy McClintock of McClintock seized operations temporarily to ensure safety for his family, his business and his employees. Manis then reached out to Corn Crib Nursery to explain the situation and that the work would be revisited once again when McClintock Trucking & Excavating was working again. Manis continued to reach out to McClintock during this time and in April, they were ready to execute the contract again. Manis then began reaching out to Corn Crib Nursery who had closed due to the Pandemic as well. He continued calling and/or emailing every day for follow up but messages were left for the owner with no replies. Since it was late April/early May and trees can only be planted in Spring and Fall, Manis drove out to Corn Crib Nursery which was very busy and left his card for owners. The following day, Manis waited in lobby until he was able to speak to Corn Crib Nursery's foreman. He was informed that the trees that were needed, they did not have and they would have to order them and wait for their arrival. When the trees arrived, McClintock was then too busy and requested Manis find another excavating company to finish the job. Manis reached out to Corn Crib Nursery to see if they could perform the work with their equipment but they could not. Now it is Summer and unfortunately this will have to go out for bid again. The project has to be bid because of the high cost with 23 trees, labor and equipment. Manis explained he would like to get this out for bid as soon as possible so the project can be completed in Fall. The Commission discussed contract legal obligations and safety concerns with the bare tree pits. Manis recommended that the tree pits be covered with mulch or turned into flower beds until Fall for safety and aesthetics. The Commission directed Manis to look into the cost for just mulching and for mulching and flowers before making a decision.

#### **AGENDA ITEM #5 – Commission Appointments Conversation**

Manis explained that this is Matt Sivertsen's last Commission Meeting as his term is expiring this year. Sivertsen had been on the SSA #6 Board and Moline Centre Main Street Commission overlapping for a total of seven years. The bylaws state that after a commissioner has been on the board for two consecutive terms they must be removed from the board for one year. The Commission and Dave Parker, on behalf of the City Council, thanked Sivertsen for his time on the board. Manis reported that Chelsey Hohensee, Dave Parker, Pete McDermott and Ajay Singh will also have term expirations in June. On behalf of Mayor Acri, he wanted to reach out to all of them to see if they would want to continue or if they had any recommendations for members. Hohensee, Parker and McDermott expressed their interest and Manis will follow up with Singh since he was unable to be at this meeting. Manis also explained there will potentially be three new members coming to the board to replace Matt Sivertsen, Michelle Sparkman and the vacant City Staff position. Once the Mayor makes her board appointments, the following meeting will have the election for positions on the board.

#### **AGENDA ITEM #6 – Follow-up from previous Commission meeting agenda items**

Manis reported at the last meeting there was discussion of redirection of funds for a potential fundraiser to help downtown Moline businesses navigate through business closures due to the Pandemic. While that meeting was going on, Governor JB Pritzker was announcing transition of Illinois

Stage 2 to Stage 3 incorporating Outdoor Dining. Once announced, the Mayor declared a State of Emergency giving temporary relief from the City's guidelines for outdoor dining during the Pandemic. A Temporary Outdoor Dining Committee was established and Manis was appointed to head the Committee. The Committee examined and established how to get bars and restaurants to move outside to open them up for business throughout Moline through a brief application process. The TaxSlayer Center allowed the City to borrow their bike racking to form temporary barricades around outdoor dining areas for businesses. Bautista explained her support for outdoor dining and thanked Manis for his work. Prior to outdoor dining, her business had been operating at 50% sales. People are enjoying the outdoor dining experience and it is creating a social atmosphere and bringing back life to the streets. In her opinion, she would like to continue having outdoor dining in Phase 4 since she will only be able to open up to 50% capacity. Discussion of what outdoor dining moving into Phase 4. People dining outside makes people feel safer to walk downtown and enjoy downtown Moline. Manis would like to see outdoor dining continuing through Phase 4. McDermott reported that Bierstube is also thankful for the temporary relief in outdoor dining.

#### **AGENDA ITEM #7 – Director's Report**

Manis explained that he has been looking into Parklets as another option for outdoor dining in Moline after the Pandemic. Bautista explained that current City guidelines are difficult to meet with cost and spacing issues and she is in favor of Parklets. Manis and the Commission discussed Parklets and what would have to occur to bring them to fruition in building them and renting them to businesses. Manis stated he is meeting with Edwards Creative to see their ideas and invited the Commission to attend if available. Manis is going to make this his next project to dive into. The Commission expressed their interest in Parklets.

#### **AGENDA ITEM #8 – Other Business**

None

#### **AGENDA ITEM #9 – Adjourn**

Dave Parker made a motion to adjourn. Chelsey Hohensee seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

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