

**MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2013**

Members Present

Rick Butkus, Acting Chairman
Jim Fuentes
Marissa Caruso
Beth Fahey
Amanda Young

Also Present

David Seaman, Liaison Trustee
Cathy Maloney, Findzall

Staff Present

Donna Framke, Marketing Director
Judy Bruning, Admin. Asst. to Mayor
Nancy Byrne, Secretary

Guests Present

Dennis Sullivan, Trib Local

Acting Chairman Butkus called the August 21, 2013 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a motion made by Jim Fuentes, seconded by Amanda Young, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Vote by voice call: Acting Chairman Butkus declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Jim Fuentes, seconded by Amanda Young, to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2013 MSC meeting. Vote by voice call: Acting Chairman Butkus declared the motion carried.

Chairman Report – In Mike Clark's absence, Rick Butkus is serving as the Acting Chairman for this meeting.

Downtown Tinley Park Update – Cathy Maloney talked about the Experience Downtown Tinley newsletter and the number of people who open and read it. She is maintaining a high open rate. Donna asked her to archive the newsletters on the Downtown Tinley website. Cathy noted that the Experience Downtown Tinley email can be longer because it is not the same as a retail-focused email. She will continue to monitor the open rate. She talked about the new format which has more of a Groupon look. Marissa Caruso will be speaking at the September Downtown Tinley meeting on the Power of Public Relations. Cathy reported that three businesses are interested in participating in a sidewalk sale so far. She feels that not every business needs to participate and that they can be spread out on the street. This is very typical. It will be held September 19, 20 and 21. She also suggested an outdoor/indoor sidewalk sale. Donna will send a notice out to the businesses. Donna distributed a copy of the Digital Sponsorship Agreement. One business has expressed an interest in a \$500 sponsorship.

Donna reported that an interview with the Mayor was taped for the Tinley Park TV station and it will be showing soon. We also have a Tinley Park You Tube channel.

Trustee Seaman asked Cathy about the progress with business attraction. Cathy reported that the evolution of the downtown marketing has been time consuming and she is spending more time on it than the business attraction at this time. She did contact about ten businesses to invite them to open a business in downtown. They are talking about doing a postcard and getting out more but she has been spending most of her 12 hours per week on the marketing side because of the time commitments. Trustee Seaman indicated that it is a priority to get an occupant for the old video store. Cathy suggested getting the realtors together to encourage them to market downtown Tinley. Donna will touch base with Ivan about this.

Beth Fahey asked if we could develop a map containing details of each available downtown property indicating the tax rate for each and whether or not the property requires sprinklering and other pertinent factors.

Benches on the Avenue – Nancy reported that the winners of the Artist Awards Contest for the benches will be presented at Music in the Plaza on Saturday, August 24th. They were determined by a panel of judges. The benches will be coming off the street on October 1st and returned to the sponsors.

Nancy distributed a list of 2014 theme suggestions for the commissioners' consideration. The group deliberated on several ideas. Nancy will research some of the theme ideas and will include this on the agenda again for next month. The search for 2014 artists will begin in early November.

Cruise Nights – Donna reported that one business asked to extend Cruise Nights for an additional week. They are set to end on August 27th. Trustee Seaman said to leave it "as is".

Donna noted that the sixth of seven concerts is August 24th. Artist awards will be presented at 8:15 p.m. Cops & Rodders is August 31st. The car show will be in conjunction with the Farmers Market. The Farmers Market ends October 12th. Donna stated that we are looking for a new Chairperson for the Boo Bash. Jim suggested doing a Progressive Dinner as was done in the past. Donna will reach out to El Coco Mio about when they are opening.

Project Updates – The Roundabout Open House is scheduled for September 17th. The American Legion Carnival at First Midwest Bank Drive-Up and Bettenhausen Used Car Lot will be October 3-6. Tinley Glass should be closing this week. A cleaning business dispatch office will be located there. Potential dates for the Irish Parade are March 9th or 16th. The members decided upon March 9th.

Trustee Update – Trustee Seaman talked about the Roundabout Open House. He talked about a possible façade for Elmore Plaza and the potential purchase of the old Always Open property. A new Electronic Sign will be purchased to replace the current one. El Coco Mio should be open by November. MWRD plans to change the capture of storm water which would cause huge costs to any downtown development. A resolution should be prepared. He is meeting this week with the principals for the South Street project to get a status

report. Jim Fuentes asked about the costs of sprinklering a downtown property that is on the market. Trustee Seaman asked Nancy to call Dan Riordan for the specifics.

There was a motion made by Jim Fuentes seconded by Amanda Young, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Acting Chairman Butkus declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

***Reminder
Next MSC Meeting
Wednesday, September 25, 2013
6:15 p.m.
Fulton Conference Center***

Upcoming Events:

- Bench Artist Awards Night – Sat., August 24th, 8:15 p.m., Zaborocki Plaza
- Benches on the Avenue “Fairy Tale Festival” Public Art Project until Oct. 1st in D.T. Tinley
- Farmers Market – Every Saturday through October 12th, Zaborocki Plaza
- Cruise Nights – Every Tuesday through August 27th along Oak Park Avenue
- Music in the Plaza – August 24th, September 7th – Zaborocki Plaza
- Roundabout Open House – Tues., September 17th, 5-7 p.m., Central Middle School
- Downtown Tinley Meeting – Wed., Oct. 9th, Noon – VFW Hall
- Fire Prevention Month Open House - Oct. 12th, 10-2-Fire Station #1- 17355 S. 68th Ct.