

MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes January 21, 2015

Members Present

Michael Clark, Chairman
Rick Butkus
Kim Scalise
Beth Fahey
Dennis Suglich
Dr. Robert Theis

Staff Present

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

Also Present

David Seaman, Liaison Trustee
Bob Haustein, Chamber of Commerce
Tom McNulty, Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Clark called the January 21, 2015 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. There was a motion made by Beth Fahey, seconded by Rick Butkus, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Rick Butkus, seconded by Beth Fahey, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 MainStreet Commission meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

Chairman Report – Chairman Clark welcomed Dr. Robert Theis, our new MainStreet commissioner. Mike noted that Dr. Amanda Young has resigned and wanted to confirm that the Mayor's office will send her a thank you letter. Bob and the commissioners introduced themselves. Chairman Clark expressed his appreciation to Dr. Theis for agreeing to devote his time to the commission. Mike also pointed out the superb job that was done by Mark Moylan on the renovation of the former Printers Quill building and asked that a letter be drafted congratulating him on his new offices.

Downtown Tinley Update – The next quarterly meeting is April 9th at 8 a.m. at the VFW. We had talked about someone speaking about taxes. Dennis offered to try to find a speaker and will contact their advisory services about H.R. Planning and fraud and small business compliance. Trustee Seaman mentioned that he could ask Trustee Maher about speaking about taxes Mike suggested getting two or three people on various topics.

Mike asked how we are going about growing the Downtown Tinley Newsletter list. He asked about Facebook posts feeding into Twitter and how it works. Mike thinks we need to have someone tweeting rather than a link. Donna noted that we have just under 2,000 Likes on the Facebook page and 3300 on Downtown Tinley. Names are being solicited at the events including at the upcoming Discover Tinley. Many sign-ups are from other people sending them the information. Mike stated that we should do the basket giveaway again. We will be soliciting giveaways for the basket. We should go up and down Oak Park Avenue getting donations. Mike wants to do the baskets more often at the other events in order to get people to sign up for the email list.

Budget Review – Donna distributed a narrative on Communication and Tourism along with Special Events and Downtown Tinley. She reviewed the goals and objectives for Downtown Tinley and for special events. Trustee Seaman stated that the signage in downtown is old and we should address signage there. The Planning Department is putting together a Wayfinding Plan. Dennis noted that we have great attendance at the Convention Center and hotels and we need to add directional signage to downtown for visitors leaving these locations. The group discussed trolleys from these areas to downtown. Donna stated that the hotel and convention center want to have a consistency to when the trollies run. Dennis asked about adding trolley stops at Cuzins and Baileys and adding more stops on Oak Park Avenue. A VFW stop was also mentioned. Dennis asked about extending the

flower baskets down to Cuzins and Baileys. If we have the decorative light poles there, we can extend the baskets south of 175th Street.

Regarding the summer concerts, Mike stated that he would like to go back to eight concerts. Trustee Seaman stated that he thinks the Board is favorable to more concerts. Mike noted that the Music Committee met and came to the conclusion that we may have to raise the fee for the bands. The cost goes up based on the size of the band. Bob suggested flyers for the hotels and hotel rooms and asked if we can advertise Downtown Tinley on the hotel room TV's.

Special Events Update –Donna noted that the Irish Parade is March 8th. Sue sent out an email about the Bunny Hop. Mike wants a letter drafted just for the Irish Parade encouraging all downtown businesses to participate in the parade. He would like 50 percent of the entries to be from Downtown Tinley. We should remind the businesses about the virtual map and any specials. They should also consider keeping their businesses open during the parade. Can we do a flyer listing which businesses are having what during and after the Irish Parade and distribute it to the spectators at the parade?

Music in the Plaza – Donna distributed a memo from the Band Selection Committee detailing the meeting that was held regarding band selections for Music in the Plaza and the Block Party.

Discover Tinley – Donna asked if the group wants to do a Downtown Tinley street again like we did in the past where all the downtown businesses are in one row (about 18 spots). Beth, Bob and Dennis said they will attend. Mike wants an email sent out encouraging the businesses to participate. We will look into adding hanging baskets at each end.

Convention Center Upcoming Events – The upcoming events were reviewed. Nancy will list them on the agenda by quarters in the future.

Project Updates - Trustee Dave Seaman updated the commissioners on current projects.

There was a motion made by Rick Butkus, seconded by Kim Scalise, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

***Reminder
Next MSC Meeting
February 18, 2015
6:00 p.m.
Kallsen Conference Center***

Upcoming Events:

- Irish Parade – March 8th
- Bunny Hop – March 29th
- Downtown Tinley Meeting – April 8th
- Discover Tinley – April 11th

Convention Center Events:

- National Career Fairs 2/24/15
- Catalyst Career Fair 2/24
- Greater Chicago Coin & Currency Show 2/26-2/28
- Home & Garden Show 3/6-3/8
- N. American Reptile Breeders 3/14-3/15
- Family Time Magazine Kid's Expo 3/28-3/29

Convention Center Events (Continued):

- Discover Tinley 4/11
- Yolobe Teen Expo 4/18
- Catalyst Career Group 4/21
- T.P.Brew & Vine Festival 5/2
- Lady – A Woman's Expo 5/9