

MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2015

Members Present

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

Staff Present

Donna Framke, Marketing Director
Nancy Byrne, Commission Secretary

Also Present

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

Chairman Clark called the March 18, 2015 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. There was a motion made by Bob Theis, seconded by Beth Fahey, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as written. Vote by voice all: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Kim Scalise, seconded by Beth Fahey, to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2015 MainStreet meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

Downtown Tinley Meeting – Donna and Mike thanked Dennis Suglich for his help finding speakers for the meeting on April 8th from 8-9:15 a.m. at the VFW. Dan Borkowski will speak for 45 minutes about security breaches and technology. Ed McGunn will discuss the physical concerns regarding money and valuables in a business.

Special Events Update – Donna reported that we had 74 entries and 6000 attendees at the Irish Parade. There were 1988 page views on the virtual map and 1881 visitors to the site. We have two \$750 sponsors for the Bunny Hop – (Ed & Joe's and Odyssey Fun World) so far. Discover Tinley is April 11th from 10-3 at the Convention Center. Downtown Tinley row will be set up with hanging flower baskets at the end. The row can accommodate 24 businesses. A gift basket will be made to raffle off with donations from the businesses. Mike will donate gift cards and glasses for the basket. Donna noted that the Farmers Market will start on May 30th rather than June 6th and will run from 7:30 a.m. to Noon. Donna updated the group on other upcoming events.

Benches on the Avenue – The commissioners discussed ways to recruit artists for 2016 such as passing out application forms at Meet the Artists night and posting small, laminated signs on a post in each bench flower box over the summer. Nancy will be at Discover Tinley with information and sign-up sheets for interested artists.

Summer Street Entertainment – Mike reported that he and Donna talked about doing summer street entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights in Downtown Tinley. Mike asked if this would be enough to attract more people to the downtown area. Donna said this could create a sense of place and that something would always be going on downtown. Trustee Seaman asked how many weekends there are without anything happening. Suggestions for other entertainment were made such as a balloon artist, stilt walker, juggler, street performer with a guitar, chalk art/sand sculptor. Other suggestions were: a marching band, laser light show, theatre lights; evening bike ride for families; food truck event in the Metra lot; musical trio on the corner; one acoustic musician outside each bar until 9 p.m. and then they go into the restaurant/bar to play afterwards. The bar or restaurant could sponsor a music group on the

corner. Have the musician sit on one of the benches where the spotlights are situated. The commissioners agreed to move forward with the street entertainment.

RBI Visit – Donna stated that Roger Brooks, a renowned tourism expert, will be here the week of April 13th to assess Tinley Park through the eyes of a first-time visitor. He will be looking at signage (public and private), way-finding (ease of getting around), general appeal (architecture, beautification), critical mass/business mass, business hours and merchant curb/façade appeal, visitor information services, visitor amenities (parking, restrooms), local attitude, attractions and activities (things to see and do), etc. Roger will provide a Summary of Assessment Findings and Workshop from 8:30 am until 11:30 am on Friday, April 17th at the Tinley Park Convention Center. An invitation will be sent out via email. A SWOT Analysis was done in early January and residential, hospitality and past visitor surveys have been sent out. The focus is on all Tinley Park tourism – not just Downtown Tinley. This has been paid for by a grant. Mike asked Donna to send the SWOT Analysis to the MSC Commissioners.

Trustee Update – Trustee Seaman indicated that the trustees sent a resolution to Gov. Rauner opposing his reduction of the road funds and the Local Government Distributive Fund. He noted that 70 percent of our tax bill goes to education. Tinley Park froze our tax levies for the last few years to avoid property tax hikes for the bill at large.

Project Updates – Trustee Seaman updated the commissioners on current projects.

There was a motion made by Dennis Suglich, seconded by Rick Butkus, 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
April 15, 2015
6:00 p.m.
Fulton Conference Room*

Upcoming Events:

- *Discover Tinley - Sat., April 11th*
- *Fire Department 5K - May 3rd*
- *Benches on the Avenue - Thurs., May 7th*
- *Memorial Day Ceremony - May 25th*
- *Cruise Nights - Every Tues. starting June 2nd*
- *Farmers Market - Every Sat. starting May 30th*
- *Music in the Plaza - June 13, 27, July 11, 25, Aug. 8, 22, 29th*
- *Tinley Park Duathlon - Sun., June 28th*
- *Caribbean Block Party - Sun., July 19th*
- *National Night Out - Tues., Aug. 4th*

Convention Center Upcoming Events

- 4/11 Discover Tinley
- 4/18 Yolobe Teen Expo
- 4/21 Catalyst Career Group

- 5/2 Tinley Park Brew & Vine Festival
- 5/9 Lady - A Woman's Expo
- 6/2 National Career Fairs
- 6/6-6/7 Body Mind Spirit Expo
- 6/11-6/13 Greater Chicago Coin & Currency Show
- 6/23 Catalyst Career Group
- 7/25 IMPACT - College Summit
- 8/22 Back on the Bus-A Back to School Expo