

MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2015

Members Present

Michael Clark, Chairman
Jim Fuentes
Beth Fahey
Dennis Suglich
Dr. Robert Theis

Staff Present

Donna Framke, Marketing Director
Ivan Baker, Econ. Development Director
Nancy Byrne, Commission Secretary
Mary Havener, Business Retention Specialist
Yuije Sansone, Econ. Development Intern

Also Present

Tom McNulty, Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Clark called the April 15, 2015 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. There was a motion made by Beth Fahey, seconded by Jim Fuentes to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting with the following additions: two sign permit applications and one façade revision from Liberty. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Dennis Suglich, seconded by Jim Fuentes, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2015 MSC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

Chairman Report – Chairman Clark reminded the commissioners to fill out the Cook County Statement of Economic Interest by May 1st. Mike reminded the members about the Annual Business Breakfast on May 6th and the Benches on the Avenue reception on May 8th.

Downtown Tinley Update – Mike stated that he thought the April 8th Downtown Tinley meeting speakers were excellent. Dennis felt that the 8 a.m. time did not work out since there were so few people at the meeting. He stated that the small businesses need to get into their shops early in the morning and therefore, may not have been able to attend at that time. Mike indicated that the next meeting is June 10th and asked for ideas. Jim suggested a speaker on business and property taxes (Class 2A and 8B). Jim asked if someone from the Village could speak about upcoming projects in downtown. Beth suggested "How to Hire People". Jim talked about the Yolobe Expo at the Convention Center for hiring teens. Tom McNulty said the Chamber has had a law firm speak about hiring and firing. A Human Resources speaker was suggested.

Benches on the Avenue Update – Nancy indicated that the benches will go out on the street on May 7th and the flowers will be planted that afternoon by the Girl Scouts and the Tinley Park Garden Club. Mike offered to donate a pizza party for the group afterwards. Photos of the benches will be taken on Friday for the brochure. The Artist/Sponsor reception is on Friday, May 8th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at El Coco Mio. The Meet the Artist Night is Saturday, June 13th from 6:30-8 p.m. and the Artist Awards are August 22nd at Music in the Plaza. Ivan suggested a BID (Business Improvement District) to help pay for parts of the bench program and other items downtown. Discussion ensued about additional benches from previous years at the south end of the street. Discussion ensued about the Core area, the Legacy Plan and a walkable downtown.

Special Events Update – Donna reported on Discover Tinley. We gathered 70 email addresses for Downtown Tinley. Next year the event will be on April 2nd. She reviewed the other upcoming events. Mike mentioned that someone needs to talk to the VFW about where to put the banner. Donna noted that there are still sponsorships available for Music in the Plaza. Vendor applications are going out next week. Sponsor

applications for the Block Party are on the Downtown Tinley website. The Wizard of Oz Fest will be September 11, 12 and 13th.

Ivan introduced Mary Havener, Business Retention Specialist who will coordinate the business visits and act as communication liaison working closely with the MainStreet and Economic & Commercial Commissions. Mary talked about her background and what she will be doing. Ivan asked everyone to let Mary know if they hear about any issues. He also introduced Yuije Sansone who is in his Masters program and is learning about planning, economic development, marketing and downtown development for his business administration program.

Liberty Building Façade – The owners of the property at 16910 S. Oak Park Avenue have decided to change what was a curved doorway and windows to a soldier brick entrance and windows. They were previously granted a façade grant and are requesting permission to make the change to the original plans. *A motion was made by Jim Fuentes, seconded by Beth Fahey, to accept the changes as presented on the rendering from the Planning Department. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.*

Nick’s Barbeque Sign Request – The group discussed a sign request from Nick’s Barbeque for a new LED sign. The biggest concern was how bright the LED sign will be and whether or not a limit can be set on the brightness. It was suggested that the Police Department check to make sure that there are no line of sight issues. Will the sign be situated at least ten feet off the street as required? Will the base of the sign be landscaped as required by code? Vegas-style flipping of the messages on the sign was also a concern of the group. These concerns will be communicated to the Planning Department.

Famous Express Temporary Sign – The new owner of the Famous Express store at 167th and Oak Park Avenue has requested permission to install a 25-foot balloon on top of the store. The MainStreet Commission gave approval for this balloon as long as it is on a temporary basis.

Project Updates – Ivan Baker presented a report on existing projects and activities. Dennis asked about making flags with the business logos on them and was informed that new downtown banners for all four seasons were made last year. He raised concerns about the Legacy Plan and Code. It was determined that for the benefit of the new commissioners, we would ask Amy Connolly, Planning Director, to do a presentation at the next MainStreet Commission meeting in order to educate the members about the Plan.

Donna reminded the group about the Roger Brooks presentation on Friday at the Convention Center.

There was a motion made by Dr. Theis, seconded by Dennis Suglich, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

<p style="text-align:center"><i>Reminder Next MSC Meeting May 26, 2015 Noon Fulton Conference Room</i></p>
--

Upcoming Events:

- *Memorial Day Ceremony - May 25th*
- *Cruise Nights - Every Tues. starting June 2nd*

- *Farmers Market - Every Sat. starting May 30th*
- *Community Recognition for Mayor Zabrocki - June 13th*
- *Benches on the Avenue Meet the Artists Night - June 13th*
- *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:

- 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
- 8/22 350 Brewing Fest
- 8/25 Catalyst Career Group
- 9/10-9/12 Ill. Numismatics Annual Coin & Currency Show
- 9/12 Born to Praise MIME4LIFE Ntl. Gospel Mime Conference
- 10/2-10/4 Chicagoland Unconventional Bicycle Expo
- 10/10-10/11 North American Reptile Breeders
- 12/4-12/6 Transylvania Slayer Con