

**MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2015**

Members Present

Michael Clark, Chairman
Beth Fahey
Bob Haustein
Julie Dekker
Dr. Robert Theis
Dennis Maloney
Joanne Maloney

Guests Present

Kurt Dekker

Staff Present

David Neimeyer, Village Manager
Michael Mertens, Assistant Village Manager
Amy Connolly, Planning Director
Donna Framke, Marketing Director

Also Present

David Seaman, Mayor
Patrick Rea, Village Clerk
Brian Maher, Liaison Trustee
Brian Younker, Village Trustee

Chairman Clark called the November 18, 2015 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. There was a motion made by Bob Theis seconded by Bob Haustein, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as written. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Bob Theis, seconded by Bob Haustein, to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2015 MSC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

Review of RBI Videos #7, 8 & 9 - The group reviewed the three "20 Ingredients of an Outstanding Downtown" videos provided by Roger Brooks International.

Discussion followed:

Mayor Seaman indicated that branding is important (logo, signage) and needs a refresh; we have an existing Downtown, and therefore, we don't have to create one. It is up to us to do something with it. Clerk Rea commented that we're creating the next iteration of Oak Park Avenue.

Dave Niemeyer stated that we need to develop the brand.

Trustee Maher noted that it is important for businesses to stay open after 6:00 pm; we should consider the suggested 10/10/10 concept, and we need to evolve toward that with a goal, direction.

Chairman Clark feels strongly that we need to bring people downtown on a consistent basis.

Beth Fahey indicated that having a dedicated plaza will pull it all together; understand finances – a \$15 million project was planned and then the economy fell apart – but the business owners with a marketing mindset need to know that the village is engaged.

Mayor Seaman stated that video gaming revenues could be redirected. We may want to look at moving the commuter parking to the east.

Clerk Rea noted that a river walk could enhance the downtown.

Julie Dekker commented that we need to continue to make improvements – even small changes will add up. We've got to push the "feeling" on the street.

Mike Mertens indicated that the Legacy TIF, Panduit Pond and South Street project are likely moving forward.

Mayor Seaman commented that our welcome signs should be visible off of the Interstate. The train is a crucial asset especially with the addition of an express train to Tinley beginning at the end of November.

Trustee Maher felt that the vibrancy of the Downtown can initially be supported by merchant kiosks, street entertainers, etc.

Clerk Rea stated that we have to convince other members of town that there is a benefit to having a strong Downtown.

Mayor Seaman indicated that we could do a better job of marketing the east side of town to other communities.

There was a motion made by Bob Theis seconded by Dennis Maloney, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

***Reminder
Next MSC Meeting
January 20, 2015
6:00 p.m.
Fulton Conference Room***

Upcoming Events

- Holiday Market - December 4-6

Convention Center Upcoming Events

- 12/8 Chicago Southland Chamber Holiday Sports Luncheon
- 12/15 Catalyst Career Fair
- 12/15 PaintNite @ Bananas Grille & Bar
- 1/20/16 PaintNite @ Bananas Grille & Bar
- 2/12-14 Tinley Park Golf Expo
- 2/25-27 Greater Chicago Coin Show
- 3/5-3/6 Brilliant Event Planning - TP Home & Garden Expo
- 3/19-3/20 North American Reptile Breeders Conference