

**MainStreet Commission Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2016**

Members Present

Michael Clark, Chairman
Bob Haustein
Beth Fahey
Julie Dekker
Julie Volkmann
Bob Theis

Staff Present

Donna Framke, Marketing Director
Lori Mason, Deputy Chief of Police
Nancy Byrne, Commission Secretary

Also Present

Brian Maher, Trustee Liaison

Guests Present

Kurt Dekker

Chairman Clark called the March 16, 2016 MainStreet Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. There was a motion made by Beth Fahey, seconded by Bob Haustein, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Bob Haustein, seconded by Julie Volkmann, to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2016 MSC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried.

Summer Events Update –

- *Concerts* - Mike introduced Deputy Chief Lori Mason and reported that the downtown businesses have asked about traffic going into downtown after the Hollywood Casino concerts. She stated that the Police Department does not prohibit traffic from going into downtown after the concerts. Mike asked about having a dedicated lane for trolleys into and out of the theatre. Lori said that the trolley could use the taxi lane. Donna will reach out to Live Nation. Donna reported that the Music in the Plaza sponsorship information will be sent out next week.
- *Cruise Nights* – Donna reported that we are working with Public Works about setting up a 10x10' tent during Cruise Nights. She noted that the VFW wants to return the music location to their property. Donna discussed putting the tent in front of or nearby the Subway lot.
- *Music in the Plaza* - Mike brought up the subject of liquor sales at the concerts and whether or not the vendors make a profit. Would we want to prohibit people from bringing in their own liquor? Lori stated that it would be difficult to police people's coolers. A suggestion was made to allow local craft brewers to provide liquor at the concerts as it is a unique idea that would interest people. VFW's problem is that they have a hard time staffing the concerts, not that they don't make a profit. The trustee was in favor of continuing to allow people to bring in their liquor.
- *Meet the Artists Night* – Donna indicated that a planning meeting will be set up in the near future and Donna will provide an update at the April meeting.
- *Pedal Bike Idea* – The group discussed the idea of a pedal bike tavern for Downtown Tinley. Lori indicated that the Liquor Commissioner would have to establish an ordinance for a liquor license for pedal bikes. The issue of traffic backing up would have to be considered and liability for injuries if someone falls off the bike. Could it operate in the bike lanes? Trustee Maher suggested trying it for one night per week and asked Donna to do research on other towns with pedal bike taverns taking into consideration legal liability, open liquor laws, the width of the pedal bike, etc. (Chicago, New Orleans, Nashville, Ft. Meyers, etc.)

Downtown Tinley Update –

Mike indicated that the next meeting is scheduled for April 13th. These meetings have had poor attendance and he asked the commissioners to consider whether to redirect our efforts. There were no submittals for the “Insider” Newsletter this month. The Experience Newsletter has a good open rate and 4,000 subscribers and could be used by the businesses who want to partake. Discussion ensued. The group expressed interest in holding two meetings per year with the Village officials as speakers to give a “State of the Street” address to the businesses. Beth indicated that businesses are interested in businesses coming in, construction, improvements to the street, etc. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 14th at 8:15 a.m. at Creative Cakes and the Village officials will be invited to speak.

Benches on the Avenue Update –

Nancy updated the group on the progress with the benches and outlined key dates. The benches will go out on the street on Wednesday, May 11th and the Artist/Sponsor Reception will be May 13th. Meet the Artist night will be Saturday, June 18th and the Artist Awards Ceremony will be August 27th at the Music in the Plaza.

Ideas for Street Performers –

Mike stated that Thursday or Friday are the best nights for street performers and that we should consider two or three acts per night. Trustee Maher suggested coupling the performers with specials at the restaurants. We should let performers know that bad language is not allowed and to offer sponsorships to businesses. Mike suggested putting the music by the fountain. Others suggested spreading performers down the street, i.e., sitting on the benches. Pop-up shops were suggested for vacant spots along the street leading to the far ends. Trustee Maher asked about licensing street musicians to play at certain locations and times. Julie D. said they need a Busking License. Donna will do some research into areas that have these. Beth said we could put food trucks in the Metra lot or locate in empty spots down the street or have street food nights.

Upcoming Events Calendar –

Donna reviewed the upcoming events and indicated that only nine downtown businesses will be participating, and therefore, we will not be doing the Downtown Tinley Row this year. She outlined the Bunny Hop details for March 20th.

New Business –

- *Radio Advertising* -Nancy passed out research on radio advertising which the commissioners requested at the February meeting. The group said we should fine-tune our focus prior to purchasing radio ads.
- *Gaming Café Licenses* – Donna noted that Dennis asked about gaming café licenses last month. Donna indicated that a full service restaurant needs a Class A license and a gaming café would need a Class E license. Mike stated that the concern of the MainStreet Commission is that these cafes do not fit the image of Downtown Tinley. Their primary purpose is gambling. Bob Haustein stated that we want quality businesses and not a gambling strip in downtown.

Trustee Update – Trustee Maher updated the commissioners on current projects as well as the Tinley Park Mental Health Center planning meetings and the Legacy TIF.

There was a motion made by Bob Haustein, seconded by Bob Theis, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Clark declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reminder Next MSC Meeting April 20, 2016 6:00 p.m. Fulton Conference Room</i></p>
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Upcoming Events

- Benches on the Avenue - Wednesday, May 11th
- Cruise Nights - Every Tuesday June 7 - Aug. 30th
- Farmers Market - Saturdays June 7 - Oct. 8th
- Music in the Plaza - Saturdays June 18 - Aug. 27th
- Meet the Artists Night - Saturday, June 18th

Convention Center Upcoming Public Events

- 5/7/16 Lady - A Women's Expo
- 6/4-6/5/16 Body Mind Spirit Expo
- 6/30-7/2/16 Tim Gardner Productions: Chicago FIT & FLEX Expo
- 7/15-7/16/16 STIHL Timbersports Series