

Main Street Advisory Board

Minutes of February 27, 2014 Board Meeting

8:00 a.m., SNAP Center, Parks & Recreation Conference Room

531 West Chestnut, Denison, TX

Members present: Don Banman, Gary Sewell, Doug Coleman, Tommi Homuth, Linda Anderson, and John Akers.

Others Present: Bob Dickson, President of Downtown Denison Inc., and Donna Dow, Main Street Director

I. Call To Order

Don Banman called the meeting to order at 8:10.

II. Minutes of the January 23, 2014, Regular Monthly Meeting

Gary Sewell moved that the minutes be approved. Doug Coleman seconded and the motion passed.

III. Agenda Items

a. Donna Dow asked us to consider requesting City Council to request grant from CIRDC, Citizens Institute on Rural Design for the 700 Block of Main Street. John Akers moved that Donna request this of the City Council and Gary Sewell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. Consider moving the March Board Meeting from the 27th to March 20th, 2014. Gary Sewell made the motion, Doug Coleman seconded the motion and the motion passed.

c. Consideration of Updates to Mission Statements and Vision

Discussion on the Mission Statement and Vision Statements followed and it was agreed that in the Mission Statement be retained, and that Donna would e-mail the vision statement to the Board Members for their recommendations in the wording.

d. Consideration of Plans for Finalizing Visioning Session. Comments and Ideas from the February 18, 2014 meeting were discussed. It was agreed that time was of the essence in communicating with the 90 attendees, to thank them for their participation and to request their input in prioritizing the items within the designated categories. The designated categories will be determined by Donna Dow and Linda Anderson's input and emailed to the Board members, prior to sending out the email communication to the attendees. It was suggested that the communication also ask for the attendees' interest in volunteering with Main Street events and initiatives.

IV. Committee Reports

Bob Dickson, Downtown Denison, Inc. President reported on the upcoming Arts and Wine Weekend March 29th and 30th. Bob also reported that the DDI membership drive is on, with membership dues of \$100.00/year for a business to join or for an individual to join. Bob also said that they are discussing the format for the DDI Annual Meeting and Awards.

Promotion Committee: Donna Dow reported that the Valentine's Window Give-away was very successful.

Economic Restructuring: Donna Dow reported that she and William Meyers visited The Texas Wine & Grape Growers conference in Frisco to collect ideas for more such businesses in Denison. Donna said the committee is working toward an inventory with details of the perpetual vacant buildings in downtown in order to work toward solving this issue.

Design Committee: Donna Dow reported that the Union Pacific Grant of \$10,000 is for public art. She reported that we did not receive the Artworks Grant, which was requested for improvements for the Pocket Park. A Board discussion followed about the plantings on Main Street. At this time, there is no money budgeted or available for planters. It was suggested that we get some large planters on loan to see what they look like on several corners, before determining the cost and viability. Donna said she would follow-up with the company who sells such planters. Hanging baskets were discussed and Tommi Homuth and Linda Anderson volunteer to take an audit of the number of places for hanging baskets and how they could be hung and maintained.

V. Director's Report

Donna Dow discussed the article in the March/April 2014 Texas Journey magazine, about Art at Heart, and how it showcased 5 destinations in Denison.

Donna provided information on activities planned for Touchdown Alley, when the High School Football Season begins on August 29th, and some new traditions that are being discussed with DISD and the City.

Don Banman made the motion to adjourn at 10:10 AM, and Doug Coleman seconded the motion, the motion passed.