TAYLOR MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
4:30 PM, May 21, 2014
City Hall, 400 Porter, Taylor TX

The General Meeting of the Taylor Main Street Board was held on May 21, 2014 at City Hall.

Board Members Present:

Irene Michna
Ed Hile
Don Williams
Dana Moehnke
Brent Humphreys
Holly VanScoy
Bobby Seiferman

Board Members Absent:

Nell Steger
Miguel Espitia
Steve Truex
Jan Konarik

Also present:

Deby Lannen (Main Street Manager)
Audrey Holdread, Owner of Angles & Tangles

Call to Order

Ed Hile called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and recorded the minutes. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded with business.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was submitted for approval. Because the financial reports for March and April 2014 were not correct, they were deleted from review and approval until next meeting.

Irene Michna motioned to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Bobby Seiferman. Motion carried

Regular Agenda

The order of the regular agenda, as printed, was changed to consider the rental assistance request of the owner of Angles and Tangles, who was present at the meeting.

1. Two Rental Assistance Applications and a Paint Grant Application were presented for Board approval:

a. Angles and Tangles, a beauty salon at 601 North Main Street, applied for $450 /mo for 10 months, starting June 1, 2014. Bobby Seiferman made a motioned to approve the request for rental assistance, seconded by Don Williams. After discussion the motion carried, with Holly VanScoy voting not to approve.

A request for a paint grant of $250 for Angles and Tangles was also presented for approval. Holly VanScoy made a motioned to approve the request for the paint grant, seconded by Don Williams. After discussion, the motion carried.

b. Bluebonnet Vapor, an e-cigarette retailer at 123 4th Street applied for $425 /mo for 10 months, starting April 1, 2014.

Brent Humphreys made a motion to deny the rental assistance request, seconded by Holly VanScoy. In the discussion that followed, the Board noted the business sells a nicotine product targeted to youth. It was further noted that many cities have banned the public use of this product.

It was also noted that the actual business activities of Bluebonnet Vapor utilize less than one-fifth of the total area of the business rental location. The remainder is used as an artist studio, TV viewing area and eating area, unrelated to the business operation.

In addition, the the cash flow projections presented by Bluebonnet Vapor were believed by Board members to be inaccurate, showing sales projections of $6,000 per month in April, 2014, to $21,000 a month in January, 2015. If these projections were accurate, the business would not need rental assistance. After discussion the motion to deny this request passed.

2. Manager's Report: Deby Lannen gave the Main Street manager's report. She stated the owner of the property at 103 East 1st Street is considering demolishing the building. It was noted the building is in very bad shape.

The Board Chair requested the Main Street Manager to start sending a weekly report to the Board. The Manager replied she “would try.”

3. Zest Fest Report: Board member and Zest Fest Chair Bobby Seiferman gave a report on the 2013 Zest Fest.   There were 105 vendors and no serious problems to report. The financial report was not yet available, but and will provided for discussion at the next meeting. All of the volunteers were thanked for a job well done.

4. Update on Main Street Roads: Board Chair Ed Hile reported the street project design is still under review and an urban planner is being considered to help develop a Downtown Master Plan.

5. New Subcommittee Chairs:

Ed Hile noted the need for a new chair of the Board’s Economic Restructuring Subcommittee. Eric Weiner has elected to leave the Economic Restructuring Subcommittee to focus on the Road Committee and the Planning and Zoning Board. Ed Hile recommended Joe Burgess, a subcommittee member, be selected as chairman.

Irene Michna moved to appoint Joe Burgess as the chair the Economic Restructuring Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Bobby Seiferman. After discussion, the motion carried.

Ed Hile noted the need for a new chair of the Promotions Subcommittee. Bobby Seiferman volunteered. Irene Michna and Brent Humphreys volunteered to be co-chairs.   Don Williams made a motion to appoint Bobby Seiferman as the Promotions Subcommittee Chair and Irene Michna and Brent Humphreys as co-chairs. The motion was seconded by Dana Moehnke. After discussion the motion carried.

Old Business

1.Update on the Preservation Ordinance:

Ed Hile opened the discussion on proposing a Preservation Ordinance to present to the City, City Attorney and City Council. Because of the importance of this ordinance, it was determined that a special workshop was needed. Holly VanScoy volunteered to convene and lead this workshop.

New Business

1. Proposed agenda items for next meeting – Holly VanScoy requested that the subject of the portable buildings owned by Taylor ISD should be added to the agenda. She would like to address whether the Main Street Board should take a position on the City's extending its agreement with TISD.

Adjournment:

Ed Hile thanked all in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Hile