

**TAYLOR MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

4:30 pm March 18, 2015
City Hall, 400 Porter, Taylor TX

The General Meeting of the Taylor Main Street Board was held on March 18, 2015 at City Hall.

Board Members Present:

Irene Michna
Don Williams
Jan Konarik
Bobby Seiferman
Miguel Espitia, Jr.
Megan Randig
Tiffany Shadd
Joe Burgess
Nell Steger

Board Members Present via Phone:

Brent Humphreys

Board Members Absent:

Steve Truex

Also present:

Deby Lannen (Main Street Manager)
Scott Green, Councilman
Timothy Tebeau, Student, Representing Brent Humphreys

Call to Order

Deby Lannen 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.

Bobby Seiferman motioned to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Miguel Espitia, Jr. – Motion carried

Regular Agenda

Manager's Report: Deby Lannen gave the Main Street manager's report and highlighted the upcoming opening of the Lucky Duck Cafe on E. 4th St., Spring Fling on April 18th, Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th and Coffee and Cars being held March 22nd. Councilman Green suggested we let the car show organizers know of the "My Chamber" app to help publicize their event.

Discussion was then held on the Blackland Prairie Days event. Joe Burgess expressed concern that we might not be able to hire board members since Taylor is a small town and we need to utilize the “movers and shakers”. Brent Humphreys expressed concern that there appears to be no concern on the part of City staff as to the urgency of the marketing decision being made – the issue being whether or not we can engage and pay him since he is a board member. He doesn’t see being able to pull off the event since nothing has been done. I stressed that I understood the mentioned concerns and was anxious also but that I was told that the City Manager and the City Attorney were working on the issue.

Bobby Seiferman asked if board members had all signed a Code of Ethics . I indicated I understood they had received them for signature when they were appointed to the board.

Brent Humphreys indicated he felt no one cared and that he would speak for himself and Irene Michna in saying that Tex Avery deserved his own event and not to be a part of a half baked event. He indicated he wanted to retract his bid for marketing services because he did not believe in the process. It had been important to have an emergency meeting but City Staff did not care and nothing was done.

Joe Burgess indicated he felt we should have one more shot at the event. He feels if we can’t do it right he understands but he still feels we can pull it off. He recommended a meeting be held Monday night.

Irene Michna asked if it could be a Promotions Committee meeting, therefore not having to post as public meeting and could have it quicker.

Jan Konarik indicated she wanted it to be a full board meeting. The decision was made to have it as a Promotions Committee meeting on Friday afternoon at 4 o’clock at City Hall but invite all Board members. The decision was made to go with that plan and meet Friday afternoon.

Joe Burgess then gave the Economic Restructuring Committee report. He spoke about CARTS possibly being able to provide transportation for several facilities to our downtown festival. He and I are polling Main Street Commons, the Senior Center, and Grace Place to see if we have enough interest to go forth with this project. We hope to be able to roll out the Walking Tour brochure at the April 18th Spring Fling. This would be done with us doing groups of tours that day. Joe also discussed a recognition program for people who are restoring buildings in our downtown. We are looking into plaques for this and will have the recognition during Preservation Month in May. He also recommended revisions to the Rental Assistance application indicating non-profits are not eligible for assistance. Donald Williams also suggested that we require them to visit with Small Business Development Center before being approved. Joe Burgess also mentioned that he and I will be working researching the grant amount limits to see if Taylor is in line with surrounding communities.

Bob Van Til then gave an update of the Downtown Master Plan. He indicated he had wrapped up all the public comments and sent them to Design Workshop for incorporation. We have had a 60% and 80% report and will now be receiving the 100%. He indicated we will have a meeting of the involved boards and the Design Workshop on April 15th for review and then to the Council on April 23rd.

Upcoming agenda items included the changes to the rental assistance application.

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted,

Deby Lannen, Main Street Manager