

MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD

March 17, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ashley Doss, John McRae, Steve Truex, Erwin Stauffer, Jeff Snyder, and Doug Moss

MEMBERS ABSENT: Curie Humphreys (as the Council appointed new board members on March 11th, attendance would not be counted at this first meeting.)

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Yantis, Assistant City Manager and Jan Harris, Main Street Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Tia Rae Stone, Chamber of Commerce President

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARE A QUORUM:** Steve Truex was nominated temporary Chairman for the meeting. He called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm with a quorum present.
- II. **CITIZENS COMMUNICATION:** No communication from the citizenry.
- III. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 1. **MOTION:** To approve the January 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes as presented and to receive the January and February Financial Reports as presented by staff. **E. STAUFFER/D. MOSS/APPROVED**
- IV. **REGULAR AGENDA: Review, Discuss and Consider Action:**
 1. **Main Street Manager's reports** - Jan presented the following reports to the board:
 - a. **Manager's Activity Report:** Jan reviewed the various meetings she attended in the course of her duties including TDA and Main Street meetings; meetings with the Chamber of Commerce and Public Arts Advisory Board; meetings with downtown stakeholders and departmental meetings.
 - b. **Downtown Property Report:** Jan reviewed the two reports indicating properties for sale and those for lease in the downtown district. She reported that a potential buyer is looking at 103 W 5th Street and that Doug Moss has purchased the First Presbyterian Church property. Properties for lease in downtown include several spaces in the McCrory-Timmerman and Titsworth buildings and the recently vacated 310-A N Main St. She reported that the loft space located at 103 W 4th St (Pressler-Hewitt Building) has been leased.
 - c. **Downtown Business Report:** Jan reported that KINCL Antiques Emporium is under new management with Glenn Schiller as manager. She also reported that 4th Street Mercantile (201 W 2nd St) has closed. Dee's Boutique has relocated from 313 N Main to 323 N Main and will be operating under a new name: Dee's Florist and Gifts.
 - d. **Board Member Attendance Report:** The attendance report was reviewed with the board and attendance was strongly encouraged at all meetings.
 2. **Consideration of a Rental Assistance Grant request from Allison Holder, owner of Cherry Tree Home and Gift, 104 E. 2nd Street:** Jan has not received any additional supporting documents from Ms. Holder, and it appears that she does not want to pursue a Rental Assistance Grant.
 3. **Report on the City's Sign Ordinance:** Jan reviewed the proposed updates to the City's Sign Ordinance as it relates to lighted signage with the board. As most of the board's members are newly appointed, it was decided that action on this matter will be tabled until after orientation.

4. **Report on the types of grants offered by Texas Main Street Cities:** Jan presented her report on the variety of grants offered across the state. In terms of Rental Assistance Grants, she noted that only 9 of the 85 reporting cities offered these grants (11%). The report was received as information by the board.
5. **Report on the history of the Rental Assistance Program in Taylor:** Jan reported that since 2012, 49 Rental Assistance Grants have been awarded totaling \$231,239. Total amounts of grant monies awarded per business ranged from \$999.80 to \$7698.40. Of the 49 businesses receiving these grants, only 20 are still in business today. One of the 20 has relocated outside the Main Street Program district. Therefore, the success rate for the Rental Assistance Grant is 40%. The report was received as information by the Board.
6. **Discuss items for upcoming agendas**
 - Board member orientation
 - Election of Officers

V. **ADJOURN: MOTION:** A motion to adjourn was made by S. TRUEX / D. MOSS / UNANIMOUS. Meeting adjourned at 6.45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jan Harris
Jan Harris, CMSM, MHP
Main Street Manager