



**Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 18th, 2019**  
**12:00 PM Red Heron Cafe**  
*Minutes*

**PRESENT**

Greg Shepherd, Judy Wobbleton, Brenda Holliday, Gemma Martin, John O’Daniel, Cameron Braddy, Joyce Whichard-Brown, Chase Conner, Jeremiah Taylor, Clarence Biggs, Charles Banks, Jason Semple, Zach Dickerson

**CALL TO ORDER**

Greg Shepherd called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

**INVOCATION**

Greg Shepherd gave the invocation.

**MINUTES**

Jeremiah made a motion to approve the minutes, Brenda seconded. Minutes were approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Increase in balance of \$100, from memberships.

Financial report was approved.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Jason Semple, Charles Banks, Chase Conner and Zach Dickerson have been working with the RISE29 program to secure interns for Martin County and Williamston economic development. Two students from the ECU school of business are working on a business plan for a brewery in downtown Williamston, with the end goal being a packet we can give directly to any potential brewery wanting to locate in town.

Schewel’s recently cleaned up their sign and are in the process of a name change to “Schewel’s Home”

A building owner on Main St. has been working on reaching out directly to breweries for someone to fill their building.

The Small Shop, opening at 125 W Main St (in the old Main Street Monogramming Building) on Stampede weekend is looking to expand retail options in downtown Williamston.

The next Economic Vitality Subcommittee meeting is Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7pm in Town Hall.

### **DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE**

The Design Subcommittee met Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

We got a letter stating we did not get the grant for the Barnes Plaza Mural. The Arts Council and Zach will work on finding other funding sources for the Mural.

No new Vibrancy Grant applications were received.

Last meeting, Judy Wobbleton mentioned a Natural Fibers group out of Washington of which she is a member. She talked to them about doing a few public art projects in downtown, but they were unable to make that happen at this time.

As a side note, the Town of Williamston's Appearance Commission, which meets in conjunction with the Design Subcommittee, needs nominees to take positions on the Commission. Zach mentioned to the group that if anyone on the WDI Board would like to nominate someone else, we can submit those nominations to the Town Board.

### **PROMOTIONS**

The Promotions subcommittee met Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Promotions Subcommittee mentioned that it may be a good idea to hang a banner at the "non-profit fence" across from Sessoms Dodge/Jeep dealership and the Shamrock Restaurant. This would let folks know about the event and we could have something permanent to advertise. The wording chosen by the committee was "Small Business Saturday | Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday | Shop Downtown Williamston Businesses." Peele Graphics has agreed to make the banner for us for \$100. We needed a motion to spend the money on the banner- Brenda Holliday made a motion to spend the \$100 on the sign, Jeremiah seconded. Zach will give Peele Graphics the green light.

We discussed holding a Logo Contest to redesign our logo. We are currently still accepting submissions.

The Promotions Subcommittee is helping plan the Fall Y'all Market, held on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

We are still in the discussion phase for a Chalk Festival in the Spring. Stay tuned for more details on this.

### **MARTIN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL**

The Motown Street Dance with band Charlie was quite successful, drawing in 70+ people (the day after a hurricane and during an ECU home game!).

They are offering Creative Movement dance classes for ages 4-10 in September and running through November.

The digital Arts Exhibit is still up!

Johnny Miller is offering a Shag Class on Tuesday nights in October.

Starting in November, they will have a members only Art Show, for show and sale.

### **EJ HAYES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Last weekend they had the annual Homecoming, which was very successful this year.

They are working on a special marker in front of the Alumni Center for Clifton Johnson.

They are also working on naming rooms at the Alumni Center to highlight people who have contributed to the Alumni Center.

### **MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE- Small Business Center**

Want to remind people of the courses available for new businesses in town, not just downtown.

### **WOMAN'S CLUB**

They are making plans for their annual fundraiser.

### **FRIENDS OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE**

Not present for this meeting.

### **MARTIN COUNTY TOURISM**

Not present for this meeting.

### **DISCUSSION**

Nothing besides prepping for the Stampede!

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Zach Dickerson adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.