



Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 19th, 2019
12:00 PM Red Heron Cafe
Minutes

PRESENT

Greg Shepherd, Ila Parker, Judy Wobbleton, Gemma Martin, Jeremiah Taylor, Charles Banks, Barney Conway, Cameron Braddy, John O'Daniel, Chase Conner, Clarence Biggs, Kathy Daly, Zach Dickerson

CALL TO ORDER

Judy Wobbleton called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Zach Dickerson gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Our only expenses for May's financial report were the paint for the mural, totaling \$178.56 and the Downtown Bucks for Griffin's Quick Lunch, which totaled \$15.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NFocus is planning to present their final draft to the Williamston Planning Board at their June meeting, 6/24.

Our environmental paperwork was signed off by the NC Department of Commerce and we are currently undergoing the required posting process for documentation. We should receive the Release of Funds letter later this month, if all goes well.

Williamston was recertified for the 10th year as an Audubon Certified Sustainable Community.

We discussed the addition of a Building Improvement Restoration Grant to our Vibrancy Grant program. This is something that Wilson does, and it pulls from the same pool of money as the Vibrancy Grant, but is a slightly different application process. These grant applications would be processed by the Economic Vitality Subcommittee, and ultimately decided on by the WDI Board. Zach brought draft overviews and applications of this grant for the board to review.

The next Economic Vitality Subcommittee meeting is Thursday, August 15th at 7:00pm.

DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE

The Design Subcommittee met Wednesday, June 5th 2019.

We should be hearing from the NC Arts Council about the Barnes Plaza Mural in July or August.

The first part of the Alleyway Mural is complete, and the Boys & Girls' Club will be coming to finish their part the last week of June.

No new Vibrancy Grant applications were received.

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

June's Small Business Saturday was more successful and we're looking back up to regular numbers. The Winner was Shannon Howell of Robersonville, who ate at the Red Heron.

The Main St. Market Dates for 2019 are 6/20, 7/11, 7/25, 8/8, and 8/22.

The first Main St. Market of 2019 had a great turnout. We closed up a bit early due to inclement weather, but overall we are really pleased with the event so far!

We are continuing to make and distribute the 2019 events brochures.

At the request of some folks who would like to attend meetings but can't due to work schedule, we are going to move the Promotions Subcommittee Meeting to the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm at the Red Heron.

MARTIN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

The Arts Council was excited to see so many new people who had never been in the Arts Council building before. They had over 50 people come out for the race and 20 volunteers.

June 27th: Annual Banquet with Entertainment, Hank & Pattie Duo

July 15th-19th: Children's Arts & Crafts Camp

September 7th- Street Dance with Motown Band "Charlie"

The Painted Piano Project is going well! There are three in the back of the MCAC building ready to be painted. They are considering moving the one already in front of the MCAC to in front of Mike Bennett's place.

EJ HAYES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

They Raised Flags on Memorial Day as well as hosted the Boys & Girls' Club of the Coastal Plain breakfast recently.

They're awarding 5 scholarships to students going off to college in the fall.

MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE- Small Business Center

MCC is working on putting their fall schedule together.

We have been asked to communicate information about fall classes at the SBC to any businesses downtown who might be able to benefit from them.

Anyone that has questions about starting or financing a small business, send them Mr. Banks' information.

WOMAN'S CLUB

Not present for this meeting

FRIENDS OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE

Ila Parker is working on grants for the windows.

MARTIN COUNTY TOURISM

Got a new billboard out on 64, for a total of three now!

DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

Zach Dickerson adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm.