



Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 18th, 2020
12:00 PM Shamrock Restaurant
Minutes

PRESENT

Jeremiah Taylor, Brenda Holliday, Gemma Martin, Lori Busatto, John O'Daniel, Cameron Braddy, Clarence Biggs, Judy Wobbleton

CALL TO ORDER

Judy Wobbleton called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM

INVOCATION

Clarence Biggs gave the invocation.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed. Zach had a correction to include Brenda Holliday's husband, Bobby Holliday as present for the October meeting. Zach will edit October's minutes to reflect this. Jeremiah made a motion to approve the minutes as edited, Gemma seconded, all in favor, amended minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jeremiah gave the financial report- we did not have any income or expenses this month. Balance remains unchanged. Gemma made a motion to approve the financial report, Brenda seconded, all in favor- financial report was approved.

Our ending balance is \$18,134.83

MAJOR UPDATES

Patriot House-

Patriot House has the interior walls up and the façade brick work completed. They were originally scheduled to be done by the end of the year but just in case they hit a few delays, we are working with Mid-East Commission to apply for another six-month extension with the state.

Mitchell Property-

Last week, Greg Modlin with Modlin's Backhoe signed the contract papers to begin work on the demolition of the Mitchell property. Per the contract agreement, he has 20 business days to complete the demolition. The process should start later this week or early next. We will update

on our social media accounts once the work begins. Per the State Assistance Guidelines, the Town cannot use the empty space on the property for government or park use for three years after the demolition is completed. We will be looking for potential buyers for the property who can use it for private business development.

Fall Market & Downtown Scavenger Hunt-

The fall market which was scheduled for 10/29 was cancelled due to weather. The high winds prevented the vendors from setting up safely. We still began the scavenger hunt which is centered in the downtown core. There are six spots on the scavenger hunt trail. Participants, once they finish the scavenger hunt, can come to the drive-thru at town hall to receive a pre-packaged bag of candy. The scavenger hunt will go through the end of November.

Christmas Market (?)

Due to the Fall Market getting cancelled, Chase and Zach are working on the idea of doing a Christmas Market and hot chocolate stand.

Website

Zach's goal is to have the website live by the end of this week. He will send the link to all of the Williamston Downtown members so they can give input, suggestions and corrections.

Community Theatre Project

Chase and the Project Committee have been hard at work on the community theatre project. They are asking for local organizations to adopt 1 of 11 garden boxes that will spell out Williamston upon completion. Each garden box is \$250.00 to adopt and will help fund the project. Zach will send out an email to the Williamston Downtown group this afternoon to ask if they want to adopt one of the garden boxes for \$250.00. Update at next meeting.

MARTIN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

- a. The Christmas Market is now up and will be open until 12/22.
- b. Through Christmas, they will be open on Saturdays from 10am-2pm.
- c. They received a North Carolina Arts Council relief grant, part of which they are subgranting to Martin Community Players.

EJ HAYES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

- a. They recently held a spaghetti dinner fundraiser which sold over \$3,000 worth of plates.
- b. They are sponsoring the Boys & Girls' Club four days per week
- c. They have hosted a Covid testing site along with a drive-thru flu shot clinic

- d. Lastly, they are finishing up their room-naming project, honoring those who have contributed to the school over the years.

MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE- Small Business Center.

Not present for this meeting.

WOMAN'S CLUB

No major updates.

FRIENDS OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE

MARTIN COUNTY TOURISM

Not present for this meeting.

DISCUSSION

Gemma mentioned that the Christmas Farmer's Market will be running from 9am-1pm on Saturday, November 28th.

Lori Busatto presented to the board about the new Williamston Community Garden. They had their ribbon cutting this past Monday, and are continuing to work to make the garden better. There are currently two sections to the garden. One is communal and will double as a learning space, the other containing plots that can be rented out for a small fee, where people can grow their own food.

Zach mentioned that Williamston Downtown needs to re-up its membership in the Martin County Chamber of Commerce. The fee is \$120.00. He will send out the vote for this in the same email as the garden box vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Judy adjourned the meeting at 12:30.