



Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 13th, 2019
12:00 PM Red Heron Cafe
Minutes

PRESENT

Chuck Halsall, Brenda Holliday, Judy Wobbleton, Glinda Fox, Ila Parker, Mayor Joyce Whichard-Brown, Mary Bazemore, John O'Daniel, Cameron Braddy, 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

Brenda Holliday made a motion to approve the minutes, Mayor Joyce Whichard-Brown seconded. The minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

We paid out several prizes/grants during January: Martin Supply Vibrancy Grant and the Boyd Agency were awarded Façade Grants. Vape It Up won first place in the Christmas Window Display and Martin Supply took second. We paid \$50 each to Griffin's Quick Lunch and Red Heron for Downtown Bucks turned in. We had no new memberships. Please refer to full financial report sent out in February's packets for all financial information.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HUD rep. in Greensboro began back at work 1/28/19, he said he was reviewing the paperwork.

NFocus is continuing work with the comprehensive plan update, they have been interviewing with several community members and stakeholders.

Not specific to downtown, but The Cypress Grill opened on 2/1/19 and so far they are doing well.

The Town of Williamston is working on partnering with Williamston Downtown Inc. for an incubator building downtown, if this is something anyone is interested in jumping on board with, join the economic vitality committee.

DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE

The Design Subcommittee met Wednesday, Feb 6th.

The Yard of the Month for January was 206 Hanover St.

The MCAC and Zach are working together on the NC Arts Council Grant application for the Barnes Mural Plaza. **Zach submitted application 2/20/19.

Confirming the Flower Fund monies are currently encumbered and are not available to us.

PROMOTIONS

February's Small Business Saturday was successful, we had a total of 160 entry forms turned in. The Winner was Danielle Hardison of Jamesville. She shopped at Sound Feet Shoes.

The Sidewalk sale will be a part of the May Small Business Saturday, on May 4th. This coincides with the Color Run hosted by the Arts Council, and will be a major event for downtown Williamston in early May.

We are planning a Downtown Cleanup Day April 6th, from 10-2 (or when we finish. It won't be overly formal).

We discussed doing haunted tours downtown during Halloween, getting the Martin Community Players involved in some capacity. Venue on Main mentioned doing a Haunted House in the fall.

Another event we discussed was a possible food tasting event, partnering with the local restaurants to come in and bring dishes from their restaurants, and maybe serving beer and wine. This would have to be on a business property rather than Town property as we cannot have alcohol consumption on town property.

Zach mentioned the potential to partner with Martin Community College, having students volunteer at downtown events for extra credit, but has not yet heard back from Judy Jennette.

MARTIN COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

The Martin County Arts Council gave the board a schedule of events coming down the chute this year. A list of those coming up in the next couple of months:

February 8th: Opening Reception for the African American Artist Exhibit 6:30-8pm. Exhibit will continue all month.

February 22nd: Donna Washington, Storyteller- Martin Memorial Library 4pm, MCAC 7pm.

March 7th: Opening Reception for Jewelry Exhibit 6:30-8pm. Exhibit will continue all month.

April 6th (Saturday): Opening Reception for Watercolor Traveling Exhibition

April 15th: ECSU Choir @ EJ Hayes Alumni Association

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

The MCAC is planning a Color Run for the spring, for which they need help setting up and advertising. (May 4th, 2019)

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

EJ Hayes Alumni Association was not present at this meeting.

MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE- Small Business Center

MCC was not present at this meeting.

On April 27th, 2019 they will host the Millennium Kickoff.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The solved their presidency problem, and two members are going to share the responsibilities.

FRIENDS OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE

The Brandon family is holding a 90th birthday celebration at the Courthouse.

TOURISM

Martin County Tourism was not present for this meeting.

DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

Greg Shepherd adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm.