

Main Street Board Minutes

September 6, 2022

A regular meeting of the Main Street Board was held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 beginning at 4:00 PM in the Brenham City Hall, conference room 2-A, 200 West Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Board members present:

Margie Routt Young – Chair

Tiffany Morisak- Vice Chair

Doug Peck

Lowell Ogle

Pete Simpson

Tom Whitehead

Elizabeth Price

Wendy Meaux

Melinda Faubion

Jon Hill

City Staff present:

Monique Breaux- Main Street Manager

Susan Cates- ED Director

Cynthia Timpa-ED Assistant

Guest Present:

Tony Ramirez

Board Members Absent:

Connie Wilder

Media Present:

None

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Margie Routt Young called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

2. Citizen/Visitor Comments:

None

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Motion was made by Doug Peck to pass the grant funding to Top Floor Cars. Motion seconded by Wendy Meaux. Vote was unanimously in favor.

Margie Routt Young – Chair	Yes
Tiffany Morisak- Vice Chair	Yes
Doug Peck	Yes
Lowell Ogle	Yes
Pete Simpson	Yes
Tom Whitehead	Yes
Elizabeth Price	Yes
Wendy Meaux	Yes
Melinda Faubion	Yes
Jon Hill	Yes
Connie Wilder	Absent

3. Regular Session

Discuss and possibly act upon Minutes from July 7, 2022 Main Street Board Meeting

A motion was made by board member Melinda Faubion and seconded by Jon Hill to approve the minutes from July 7, 2022 board meeting.

Chair Margie Routt Young called for a vote. The motion passed with the board voting as follows:

Margie Routt Young – Chair	Yes
Tiffany Morisak- Vice Chair	Yes
Doug Peck	Yes
Lowell Ogle	Yes
Pete Simpson	Yes
Tom Whitehead	Yes
Elizabeth Price	Yes
Wendy Meaux	Yes

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Melinda Faubion	Yes
Jon Hill	Yes
Connie Wilder	Absent

There was discussion about board members whose terms expire in December and the need to re-apply or retire from the board. Emails have been sent to those whose terms are expiring Dec 31, 2022.

The subject was introduced and discussed about committees and if they are still appointed by the Main Street Board. Susan will research the policy and report back to the board.

4. Discuss and possibly act upon Economic Vitality Committee Recommendation to approve economic Impact and Innovation Grant Fund Application for Top Floor Cars

- Tony Ramirez was present to answer any questions about the renovations at 301 South Market Street. He stated that the additional building, as laid out in the plans, will be built of cinder block to match the existing building, and maintain the same roof line and type. It will be painted white, the same color as the existing building. He stated that he plans to be open around the end of October.
- The board members expressed appreciation for the project, as it has cleaned up the property and makes a better impression as visitors come into the downtown area.
- Motion was made by Doug Peck to pass the grant funding to Top Floor Cars. Motion seconded by Wendy Meaux. Vote was unanimously in favor.
- Margie Routt Young – Chair Yes
- Tiffany Morisak- Vice Chair Yes
- Doug Peck Yes
- Lowell Ogle Yes
- Pete Simpson Yes
- Tom Whitehead Yes
- Elizabeth Price Yes
- Wendy Meaux Yes
- Melinda Faubion Yes
- Jon Hill Yes
- Connie Wilder **Absent**

5. Discuss and possible act upon moving forward with Producing 3rd Oral History DVD

Board member McCordie-Morisak reported the newest Oral History DVD is completely paid and will be ready for distribution by late fall, 2022. She reported that the DVD can be purchased online or at the Visitor Center. There was discussion about promoting the DVD with public showings at the Barnhill Center.

- Local History Day is in the discussion phase. It will change as a result of suspension during Covid-19, and possibly be discontinued.

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6. Update on Initial Parklet Application

Susan Cates reported that the parklet application by Grand Leader/Mescalito is being submitted on Sept. 7. The process is as follows:

- The application is made
- Staff review
- License agreement sent to applicant
- Applicant approves the agreement
- Staff presents to City Council

Susan suggested that a few Main Street Board members should be present at the City Council meeting when the presentation is made. Margie asked Monique to email the board members with the date and time of said City Council meeting.

7. Farmers Market Partnership with Revival Merchantile

This item was presented by Monique Breaux, Main Street Manager.

A downtown merchant, Stacy Marhoffer, has approached Main Street with a proposal to manage the First Friday Farmers Market. Staci proposes to make the following changes:

- Change the title of “First Friday Farmers Market” to “First Friday Artisans Market” in order to more accurately describe the event.
- Add a Farmers Market every Saturday, to be set up In Austin Alley. There would be no vehicular traffic in the alley. This will be true “farmer” goods, i.e eggs, produce, meat, honey, etc.
- Create “Themed” monthly markets such as football, Christmas, Spring.
- Split the booth rental proceeds with 85% going to the manager and 15% going to the city. The proceeds to the city would off-set the cost of set-up, signage and police protection.
- Staci will be held responsible for the success of the First Friday Artisan Market and the Saturday Farmers Market. The City of Brenham ultimately retains control of the program.

Monique has suggested a 6-month trial basis for the changes. Stacy will make changes to her proposal and re-submit to Main Street and the farmers market committee.

8. Promotions Committee Report

Tom Whitehead reported on the Summer Sip review by the Promotions committee.

- He reported there was a miscommunication from staff about the number of glasses sold, there being a difference of 150. (500 reported, 350 actually sold).

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- The price this year went up to \$35 per glass vs. \$25 last year. The committee felt the price increase was the reason for fewer glasses sold, therefore they want to go back to the \$25 charge going forward.
- The Scarecrow event is slated for September 21, leaving 2 weeks to promote and add to the number of entrants. They currently have 11, with a goal of 26.
- Uptown Swirl is scheduled for January 14, 2023.
- Sponsorships are \$2,000

9. Design Committee Report

- 96 West was awarded their grant for improvements
- Committee has asked for cost details from Top Floor Cars
- Glamfetti has submitted application for façade improvements
- Heritage museum is doing finish work on the first floor; interior paint, wood floor refinishing, light fixtures, millwork.
- Exhibits will begin setting up on September 14 with an opening slated for November
- The Austin Alley project is contingent upon grant funding as there is no budget for it from the City of Brenham. Staff will work on a grant stack to achieve funding.
- Discussion about Christmas lights and décor was extensive. There were many ideas and thoughts. Board chair Margie Routt Young suggested the committee re-convene and come back to the board with a 5-year strategic plan for Christmas decorations in Downtown Brenham. There was also discussion as to the County participating with some of the costs of new decorations.
- Susan Cates suggested we spend \$16,000 on wrapping the Oak trees on the Courthouse lawn with white lights, update existing wreaths at a cost of \$2,000, then divide the costs between Main Street, City of Brenham and Washington County. She also suggested we inventory current decorations and then determine our direction after this December.

Next Board meeting is October 3rd, 2022.

Meeting adjourned by Margie Routt Young at 5:23 PM

Margie Routt Young

Board Chair

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ATTEST

Cynthia Timpa

ED Assistant

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