

MINUTES
BREHAM MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD
February 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the Brenham Main Street Advisory Board was held on Monday, February 6, 2023 at City Hall, Conference Room 2A, 200 W. Vulcan, Brenham, Texas beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Board members present were Tiffany Morisak, Dax Flisowski, Celia Haley, Doug Peck, Elizabeth Price, Pete Simpson, Connie Wilder, Lowell Ogle, Coleen Broussard, and Wendy Meaux.

Board members absent were Andi Liner.

City of Brenham staff members present were Economic Development Director Susan Cates, Barnhill Center Manager Alex Dill, and Assistant Aquatic Superintendent Kelsey Toy.

Others present were City Councilmember Leah Cook, Tom Whitehead (media) from KWHI, Jon Hill, Jamie Pinner, Sherry Harber, and Rusty Summar

1. Chair Doug Peck called the meeting to order.

2. Citizen/Visitor Comments

Sherry Harber read a statement regarding her desire to help Downtown Brenham and her opinion regarding the need to preserve parking for retail.

WORK SESSION

3. Recognition of 2022 Outgoing Main Street Advisory Board Members

Doug Peck thanked each of the four outgoing Board Members: Melinda Faubion, Jon Hill, Tom Whitehead, and Margie Young. Hill and Whitehead were present to receive their certificates of appreciation and cards confirming a commemorative brick will be placed in their honor in Alamo Alley.

4. Reports from Main Street Committees

- **Design** – Elizabeth Price (Chair) stated that they have one pending grant application from Glamfetti that is nearing completion, the committee will have a Christmas decoration plan to propose to the Board at next month’s meeting, and remarked that Design Committee quarterly ride around survey of downtown buildings noted some concern about the back exterior wall of the Yumm’s building that needs to be addressed with the owner.
- **Economic Vitality** – Did not meet this month so there are no updates. The committee is meeting on Wednesday, February 8th.
- **Organization** – Tiffany Morisak (Chair) shared that James Pharaon was at the meeting this month to discuss work on the third Recollections DVD. Direction on the content was provided to Mr. Pharaon and work is commencing. A meeting with

- Tiffany Morisak, Susan Cates, and Jennifer Eckermann is scheduled to discuss Local History Day.
- **Promotions** – Wendy Meaux (Chair) reported that all bands for Hot Nights, Cool Tunes have been secured: Ashmore, Skyrocket, Shekere and The Spicolis. The committee is continuing to solicit sponsorships. Summer Sip is scheduled for June 10th and the committee is in early planning. Galentine’s event is a merchant-led event with 16 participants on February 8th.

5. Discussion and Update on 2023 Uptown Swirl

Promotions Committee Chair Wendy Meaux stated that “it was the best Swirl ever!” Financials were presented showing almost \$27,000 in revenue. 797 total glasses distributed. Retailers report significant sales increase for the day over normal Saturdays.

6. Discussion and Update First Friday Farmers and Artisan Market

Alex Dill and Kelsey Toy reported that the February market received 47 applications, 37 signed up to participate, 2 were no-shows. There was good traffic for a winter market and the weather was gorgeous. Susan Cates expressed appreciation for Alex and Kelsey stepping in to keep the market going while the Main Street Manager position is vacant.

7. Discussion and Update on Spring Eggs Art Walk

Design Committee Chair Elizabeth Price reported that planning for Spring Eggs Art Walk is well underway. Teresa Rosales has updated the flyer and sent out an email to solicit sponsors. Approximately 30 egg cut-outs are being prepared. A draft of the flyer was circulated to Board Members.

8. Discussion and Update on Downtown Parklets

Elizabeth Price noted that the process of developing Parklets started over five years ago with the Parklet at 96West. The Main Street contributors reviewed best practices from other similar towns to Brenham. Pete Simpson presented a handout showing the distance from the back to the front of Walmart at 400 feet, similar to most distances from downtown retailers to city-owned parking lots adjacent to Downtown. Connie Wilder remarked that it is important for the city to plan for parking before approving Parklets. Tom Whitehead commented that the 2012 Downtown Master Plan and the 2017-2018 revisions extensively discuss parking recommendations. Rusty Summer stated that he thinks there should be designated parking for County business in lots away from the Courthouse Square. Councilmember Leah Cook expressed thanks for all the work the Main Street Organization has put into the Parklet Manual.

9. Discussion and Update on Main Street Manager Position

Susan Cates reported that the Main Street Executive Committee reviewed 11 resumes, selected four for Cates to interview (one cancelled because she found another job). The

executive Committee met again to review the first interview results and selected two candidates for an interview with the Committee on Thursday, February 9th.

10. Discussion and Update on Main Street Raised Funds Balance

Susan Cates expressed thanks to Teresa Rosales for compiling the spreadsheet showing the Raised Funds Balance of \$69,611, noting the matching grant funds from Brenham Community Development Corporation, deducting Fiscal Year 2023 paid grants, and funds earmarked for future grants, leaving an available funds balance of \$28,611. Cates noted that the Board should consider allocating an amount of the balance toward Sign Grants at a future meeting.

REGULAR SESSION

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Minutes from the January 9, 2023 Regular Meeting

No changes were made.

Elizabeth Price made the motion with a second by Wendy Meaux. The chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

Chair Tiffany Morisak	Yes
Coleen Broussard	Yes
Dax Flisowski	Yes
Celia Haley	Yes
Andi Liner	Absent
Wendy Meaux	Yes
Lowell Ogle	Yes
Douglas Peck	Yes
Elizabeth Price	Yes
Pete Simpson	Yes
Connie Wilder	Yes

12. Administrative Updates

➤ Main Street America Video Series

Susan Cates reminded all Board members about the email forwarded from Main Street America with videos about each of the four points of the Main Street Program. The Board provided direction to Cates to also send to all committee members.

➤ Other Updates

Chair Doug Peck requested each committee chair to review their membership and provide a list of members with designated committee chair for the Board to approve at the next meeting.

The next Main Street Board Meeting is March 6, 2023.

Pete Simpson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Wendy Meaux. Chair Doug Peck adjourned the Meeting at 5:04 pm.

Doug Peck

Doug Peck
Board Chair

ATTEST:

Jean Bellinger

Jean Bellinger, City Secretary for
Susan Cates
Director of Economic Development