



Main Street Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

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

Members present:

Pete Simpson, Elizabeth Price, Tiffany Morisak, Coleen Broussard, Dax Flisowski, Celia Haley, Connie Wilder, Andrea Liner, Wendy Meaux

Members absent:

Doug Peck, Lowell Ogle

City Staff present:

Main Street Manager Leigh Linden
Director of Economic Development Brenham Susan Cates

Others present:

Candice Bullock, Washington County Commissioner, Jamie Pinner, Sherry Harber

1. Call Meeting to Order

Pete Simpson called meeting to order at 4:02 pm as the Main Street Board Vice-Chair.

2. Citizen/Visitor Comments

Sherry Harber addressed the board regarding the ongoing discussion about parking. She stated that there is a need for parking due to the ratio of available spaces compared to the number of downtown businesses. She believes there is a shortfall of over 300 spaces. Susan Cates and Elizabeth Price both pointed out that the number referenced is from an outdated source.

3. Introduction of New Main Street Manager, Leigh Linden

Pete Simpson introduced Leigh Linden as the new Main Street Manager. Susan Cates thanked the Main Street Executive Committee for their participation in the hiring process.

4. Reports from Main Street Committee Chairs:

- a. **Design-** A Ride Along is scheduled for March 20th; 37 Eggs have been entered in the Spring Eggs Art Walk; no new grant applications were presented

- b. Economic Vitality-** Parking options continue to be discussed including designation of “Customer Only Parking” painted on spots and ideas for encouraging other downtown employees to use parking lots instead of on-street spots; EIIG application from Lucky’s Hookah Lounge is still under review; EIIG application from Easy Rider was declined as the items presented were not building specific; Holiday decoration plans will be presented later on the agenda,
- c. Organization-** James Pharaon is wrapping up filming for the Recollections video series; talks to reinstate Local History Day are pending and will include input from the Black community
- d. Promotions-** Summer Sip to be held June 10th; Board suggested change in time to 3-7pm; Hot Nights, Cool Tunes bands and sponsors are booked.

5. Discussion and Update from Downtown Business Alliance

Jamie Pinner, representing the DTBOA spoke on the name change Downtown Business Owners Association; Ms. Pinner updated on the meeting held on February 28th that was attended by 10-12 businesses; the next meeting will be on April 3rd; businesses are interested in more downtown events; parking was discussed; Susan Cates asked if all downtown businesses and property owners will be included, discussion ensued regarding including property owners and downtown residents as well it was noted that this is an organization separate from Main Street, so while feedback may be provided, it is the decision of the DTBOA who to include; Ms. Pinner will bring another presentation to the next Economic Vitality Committee meeting.

**6. Discussion and Update on Main Street Raised Funds Balance
No change from last month.**

7. Approval of Minutes from Monday, February 6, 2023 Meeting

A motion was made by Andi Liner and seconded by Wendy Meaux to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting. Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

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

8. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Moving the Date of the April First Friday Farmer’s Market

Due to the Good Friday holiday, the First Friday Farmer’s Market would not be fully staffed on April 7th. The Promotions committee suggested moving the market up 1 week to March 31st to coincide with the final week of Spring Round Top

Celia Haley made a motion to approve the new date. Andi Liner seconded. Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

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

The suggestion was made to advertise the Farmer’s Market so that visitors would be aware of the event in Downtown Brenham.

9. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Appointment of Committee Members for Each of the Four Main Street Committees for Terms Expiring January 31,.

Following a discussion about not limiting the number of committee members led by Elizabeth Price, a motion was made by Celia Haley and seconded by Tiffany Morisak to approve the list of committee members provided by the chairs of each committee.

Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

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

10. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Appointment of a Main Street Advisory Board Member to Serve as Chair of Each of the Four Main Street Committees for Terms Expiring January 31, 2023.

A motion was made by Elizabeth Price with a second by Dax Flisowski to approve as presented. Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

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

11. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon Allocating a Budget From Main Street Raised Funds Account for the Purchase of Christmas Decor

Elizabeth Price opened the discussion of purchasing new Holiday decorations for 6 over pole wreaths and skyline garlands. Price presented a three-year plan and a map showing the placement of decorations. She noted that the committee will work with City staff on where the decorations can be mounted and how to access electricity. The design committee is asking for a budget of \$20,000 out of Main Street Raised Funds to be set for the purchase of new Holiday decorations for Downtown.

Connie Wilder made the motion to approve the budget. Tiffany Morisak seconded. Chair called for a vote. The motion passed with the Board voting as follows:

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

12. Administrative Updates

➤ New Main Street Businesses

Glamfetti held their grand opening celebration on March 4th with great success and a line of visitors stretching down the block; Sweet Ivy's restaurant is in planning to open in the space between PlanNorth and 96West.

➤ Updates from Elected Officials

County Commissioner Candice Bullock discussed the County's role in Christmas lights in the trees on the courthouse square. She will continue to look into the cost and maintenance as she prepares to present the item during budget. She also noted that the County is working on a plan to update the landscaping around the Courthouse.

➤ Other Updates

Leigh Linden will be attending the National Main Street Conference in Boston, March 25-30 including attendance at Main Street 101, a four-hour introduction class with Main Street basics.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Pete Simpson adjourned the meeting at 5:22 pm.

Pete Simpson

Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Leigh Linden

Main Street Manager