

DOWNTOWN MANCHESTER MOVEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date and Time: 8:30 AM January 11, 2019

Location: The Church @117

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Downtown Manchester Movement Steering Committee (DMMSC) was called to order by Chairman Steve West at 8:30 with the following members in attendance: Steve West, Kevin Jones, Bridget Fiske, representing Jamie Sain, Katie Riddle, Beverly Vetter, John Mancini, and Ray Amos. Absent were Ryan French, Mark Messick, Ellen Fletcher and Allison Dotson.

Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Courthouse Repairs.

- A. ATT Cables: Beverly reported that the cables on the north façade of the courthouse are not internet cables for the court room upstairs as previously thought. County Court Clerk, Heather Duncan says that there is no phone and Internet service in the upstairs of the courthouse. The cables are not from Ben Lomand's recent installation of fiber optic cable at City Hall and around the square.
- B. Historic Preservation Fund Grant: The State Historical Commission will be disbursing federal grant money to Certified Local Governments who apply for funds (60/40 % match) for various purposes, including restoration of Historic Register buildings. It was decided to apply for a grant to repaint all trim at the courthouse, including scraping and staining and finishing the doors to be more in line with their original appearance. Beverly will apply for the grant with help from Steve.

Main Street Program News

Chairman West announced that the application deadline for the entrepreneurship grant had passed.

Downtown Enhancements

- A. Decorative Lighting: Kevin has contacted Allison Dotson, representative for the Tourism Commission and reports that the Commission is amenable to funding the cost of decorative downtown lighting for Christmas 2019.

Tourism Concert: A series of monthly concerts has been planned for downtown with the first being Rubiks Groove February 16 at the Church at 117.

Holiday Events: Tinsel Trail and Halloween: Allison Dotson being absent, in-depth discussion on this was postponed until February's meeting.

Meeting Frequency: Steve proposed that the group meet on a quarterly or ad hoc basis. After a short discussion, no action was taken.

New Committee Members: Steve voiced that new and/or additional members are needed for DMMSC. He would like to relinquish the chairmanship but remain on the committee focusing on entrepreneurship and grants and asked for suggestions for new members as well as a new chair. John suggested asking Richard Bananski, of Mid-TN Vapor Shop. He also suggests increasing marketing efforts to attract new businesses as well as new customers for existing businesses downtown. Katie offered the assistance of the Chamber of Commerce in recruiting and marketing. Ray mentioned the success of the Manchester Arts Center as a good example of how marketing efforts and word of mouth can encourage more downtown activity.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 on a motion by Ray Amos.

NEXT MEETING 9:00 AM FRIDAY February 8, 2019