



Main Street Board Meeting – March 8, 2021

MINUTES

Call to Order: The regular meeting was called to order was by Kelly Bar, Main Street Chairman, at 9:33 AM.

Attendance Report: Board members present were Leanne Griffin, Madison Trotter, Josh Owen, Morgan Davis, Taylor Couey, Drew Duren, Jennifer Pevey, Vann Pitts, and Kelly Barr. City representatives included Main Street Director, Jennifer Price.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes have been approved.

Old Business:

Fire Truck Rehab: Jennifer Price has reached out to several businesses about rehabbing fire truck.

Fountain for The Depot: Have received a proposal but project is still in the planning phases.

Downtown Trees: Planting was successful, and board said the trees turned out great! There will be mint, rosemary, and geraniums added to the planters downtown.

Adopt a Bench Program: We have received four (4) adoptions so far since launching this program last week.

Shop Hahira Website: Madison brought up the website with Jennifer Price and wanted to get an update and also explain the website to new board members. Jennifer Price stated she is still working on it and will give us an update at next meeting. The website will be similar to Main Street Valdosta; combining all shops, restaurants, businesses, etc in Hahira onto one website. Jennifer stated that if anyone on the board has any experience to get with her on suggestions.

New Business:

New Board Member Welcome- New Board members introduced themselves; Taylor Couey, Drew Duren, Jennifer Pevey, and Vann Pitts.

Voting- Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary- Voting will take place at the end of the meeting and updated with members after.

Business Meet & Greet with Chamber President and Lowndes County Manager- April 19th at 9:30- Jennifer Price has encouraged all board members and business owners to attend this event. Very informal and there will be light refreshments.

Business Update:

Food Lion- Will be opening March 10th, 2021.

Fox Hill Plantation- New venue located off Miller Road. This venue will host weddings and other events.

Blinds Unlimited- No official opening date.

Wendy's- Set to open the 2nd week of June.

Goals for 2021:

-Jennifer Price would like to start focusing on promoting local businesses that are still feeling the effects of COVID. Morgan suggested putting on a workshop for business owners to show them how to utilize social media to increase their profit. Jennifer Pevey suggested reaching out to the Small Business Development Center located on VSU campus. They provide free training in person and online, or for a small fee, to local businesses. They also help in financing to purchase a business.

-Taylor will be out at the Azalea Festival all weekend and offered to take business cards or information for her booth this weekend.

-Vann suggested doing the Downtown Dollars that Thomasville utilizes. It was discussed that Adel and Valdosta also utilizes this. Jennifer Pevey has a contact she is providing to Jennifer Price with the individual over the Thomasville program. Jennifer Price is going to look into it for planning and implementation. Madison had suggested instead of having a Downtown Dollar program but to encourage business to business relationships amongst the community to offer deals such as Kidz Quest offering a discount to Church Street Café when someone signs up for one of her classes or events.

-Madison brought up spotlighting local businesses for the new year on Facebook. At first it was going to be once a month but then Taylor suggested doing it every two weeks. Kelly had some concern regarding the format in which the spotlight would be done. Jennifer Price stated it would be easier to go to the business directly with a FAQ in lieu of emailing businesses to give a description.

Main Street Update:

Updates of events-

Winter Farmers Market/Chili Cook Off: Tons of people showed up for this event. It was suggested that Hahira hosts another Chili Cook Off. It was sponsored by Vertice Boutique and Kidz Quest worked the event.

Talk 92.1 Broadcast: Talk 92.1 radio station will be out in Hahira on 3/17 to do a live broadcast advertising for the sidewalk sale that will be 3/20. They are going to speak with many business owners on the show that day as well.

Sidewalk Sale: This will be held on 3/20 and open to all businesses.

Couples Two Step Class: This will be held on 3/20 and open to all couples.

Spring Downtown-Egg Hunt & Paint Party: This will be held on 4/3/21. Three businesses have offered to sponsor the paint party for 50 kids. There will be food trucks, music, open to all vendors, and Kelli Rae will be there taking photographs with the Easter Bunny. Monkey Britches and Kidz Quest are sponsoring the egg hunt.

Clean Ups: Earth Day is on 4/22 and a City-wide cleanup will be held to honor Earth Day on 4/24. Madison will work on this directly with Jennifer. This is also the date of the Farmers Market in April. Leanne suggested reaching out to Valwood's 9-12 grades for community service hours and Jennifer suggested reaching out to the Boy Scouts. Madison will work on putting together areas for cleanup such as West Stanfill Street, Union Road, Coleman Road (dirt road), and Dollar General. After this one, then we will focus on the one for National Clean Up Day 9/18/21. Madison suggested reaching out to kid's gyms such as Kidz Quest and White Tiger to see if they would want to be involved.

Merchant Meetings on Tuesday following MSB meeting: This meeting will be held at Daylight Donuts tomorrow morning at 9:30.

Next Meeting: April 12th at 9:30 am at the Depot

Adjourn: Meeting called at 10:30 by Kelly Barr. Seconded by Madison.