

## Rediscover Downtown Peru, Inc. Minutes November 29, 2016

Meeting held at the CRC Building, Peru.

President Steve Dobbs called the meeting to order at 12:05pm. In attendance were Jill Miles, Julie Borden, Kassi Kotkoski, Steven Ray, Steve Dobbs, Jim Tidd, Brooke Robertson, Steve Anderson and Bryan Maggart.

Minutes from the September 2016 meeting were approved with one correction. Moved by Steve Anderson seconded by Jill Miles.

President Steve Dobbs reported on the Banner program. Modern Graphics is making a minor change to the design that the Banner Committee agreed upon. The board reviewed the proposed Banner schedule and Steve will present to the Board of Works when finalized. The City wide Banner Program will be facilitated by RDP, this was adopted by the Board of Works. The banners should be completed in the next 30 to 60 days and will be installed in the spring.

All committee chairmen have met with Steven Ray to work on their 2017 Goals & Work Plans other than the Promotion committee. Steve Anderson will get this scheduled with Steven Ray in the next few days.

Promotion Committee Report: Steve Anderson

- Needing a start date for the Second Saturday events. The board agreed that May would be a good month to start the event. Kassi Kotkoski has volunteered to help with the planning of the event.
- Congrats to Steve Anderson for winning the Circus Chili Cook off and representing Rediscover Downtown Kalamazoo!!

Design Committee Report: Julie Borden

- Circus Festival has requested payment for their work that is completed.
- Circus Band has resubmitted their estimate for their façade work.
- Masonic Lodge has submitted an application, more information is needed before approval.

Treasures Report: Bryan Maggart

Commerford and Co suggests that we wait until 2017 to start using Quick Books.

The financial report was reviewed.

Jim Tidd updated the board on the Blight Elimination Program and explained that starting in December of 2017 that RDP will start seeing revenue come in from the sale of the lots.

Business Development Suggestion from Jim Tidd on the 2017 Goals & Work Plan is to include Retail Strategies with MCEDA in bringing in retail opportunity into the downtown. Also to keep including the City's Capital Investment Plan when considering our goals and projects.

Board Organization Report: Jill Miles

- Kassi Kotkoski is new to help out with marketing and will be the main contact with Peru Tribune, Peru Miami News and WARU. Jill will continue to take care of the social media.
- Parade Recap: Great event, suggested next year to have a float or some kind of display. Went through 30 bags of candy.

Organizational Suggestion: Steve Dobbs met with Steven Ray to discuss restructuring the committees. This will move Jill Miles to co-chair with Steve Anderson on the Promotion Committee, and Steve Dobbs to Chair the Organizational Committee. Steve Dobbs suggested that he will continue to Co- Chair the Business Development Committee with Brooke Robertson.

Steve Dobbs asked that each chair come up with 4 to 5 projects or goals for the 2017 year and have ready for the meeting in December.

Steve Anderson agreed to get some downtown business owners together for a meeting in mid January to start planning 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays.

No meeting for the board in December

Next meeting will be January 25th@ 12pm at the CRC.

Meeting adjourned at 1:07pm

Minutes submitted,  
Brooke Robertson

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_