

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
OF THE ST. ALBANS CITY DOWNTOWN BOARD
& BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ST. ALBANS FOR THE FUTURE
6:00 PM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL, 100 NO. MAIN ST.

Approved December 20, 2016

Committee Members Present

Kate Collin, Vice Chair
Sharon Holcomb
Laz Scangas
Mike McCarthy, Chair (recused)

Public Present

Erik Johnson
Matt Brosseau
Maureen Brown

Staff Present

Marty Manahan, Director of Operations & Business Development
Chip Sawyer, Director of Planning & Development

1. **Call to Order – K.Collin Opened the meeting at 6:05pm**
 - a. Discuss Additions or Deletions to Agenda – **None.**

2. Organization Committee Interviews of Candidates for Downtown Board
 - a. Discuss interview questions and procedures – **No discussion**

 - b. Interviews

Four candidates for the Downtown Board were present: Matt Brosseau, Maureen Brown, Erik Johnson and Mike McCarthy. Here are the questions asked and their answers:

Questions Combined: Describe why you would like to join the Downtown Board?
What skills, expertise and viewpoints would you bring to the Downtown Board?

Maureen Brown spoke about background in the community. Opened the LaQuinta Inn. Now manager of the Hampton Inn under construction. Used to be on the Chamber of Commerce board.

Erik Johnson came to St. Albans 5 years ago. Lives in the City. Involved in local organizations and events. Works for MyWebGrocer and does consulting for small

businesses. Interested in Downtown Board because it is one of the best ways to build community value and would like to grow the capacity to hold events and draw in a new crowd.

Matt Brosseau born and raised in St. A. Got a degree in engineering and bought a house in St. Albans. Works at Perrigo and joined the National Guard. Make St. Albans a place where people would like to invest their time and money.

Mike McCarthy discussed background on the Downtown Board and the City's accomplishments. Past as owner of Cosmic Bakery. Exciting to be a part of the revitalization.

Question: What are the top 2 issues you would like to focus on?

Maureen:

Business Development and retention, specifically the new hotel's role. Generating events and things for people to do here. Get more people involved in running events.

Erik:

Rebranding and finding a niche where St. Albans excels.
Retail presence in light of big box stores.

Matt:

Have a conversation with Downtown business owners about what obstacles and challenges are. What has changed. Best practices and lessons learned. Use input to steer downtown efforts.
Taylor Park utilization.

Mike:

Untapped potential in using the spaces we have Downtown. Building signature events that have been growing. See the Arts effort turn into something that can host events in a self-sustaining manner.
Communication with residents and businesses as improvements continue downtown.
Find consensus and solve infrastructure issues.

Question: Which of the four committees would you consider joining?

Erik: Design and Arts.

Matt: Merchants/Promotion and Economic Restructuring.

Maureen: Merchants/Promotion and Economic Restructuring or Arts.

Mike: Organization, Arts and Econ. Restructuring.

c. Org. Cmte. recommendations to City Council

Motion by L.Scangas to recommend Maureen Brown and Matt Brosseau for the open seats expiring on 12/31/2017 seats and Erik Johnson and Mike McCarthy

to seats to expire on 12/31/19. Second by S.Holcomb. Approved with all in favor.

3. Other Business - **None**
4. Public Comment - **None**
5. Adjourn

Motion by S.Holcomb, second by L.Scangas, to adjourn at 6:41pm. Approved with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chip Sawyer, Minute Taker