

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY DOWNTOWN BOARD
& ST. ALBANS FOR THE FUTURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2013
5:30 PM
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL
100 NORTH MAIN STREET

APPROVED MAY 21, 2013

Board Members Present: Elizabeth Gamache (Chair), Jeff Bean, Mike Blouin, Katy Collin, Sharon Holcomb, John Holzscheiter, Sandy Mayotte, Laz Scangas, Jim Walsh, Jeff Young,

Board Members Absent: Tim Hawkins, Mike McCarthy, Dominic Cloud (non-voting).

Staff Present: Chip Sawyer, Martin Manahan

Public Present: Jim Cameron.

1. Call to Order

Chair Elizabeth Gamache called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. Downtown Program Update

Program Update was distributed in meeting packet. No questions or discussion.

3. Update on financial status of St. Albans for the Future

There were no major changes to finances. It was decided by consensus that financial reports should be given on a quarterly basis, beginning with the May meeting.

4. Project Updates

a. Streetscape Project

Chip Sawyer reported that the Streetscape Project was proceeding well and on schedule. He asked the Board for comment on tree species locations on the project. Should trees be planted so that each block has the same species, or should species be mixed on the blocks? The general consensus was that species can be mixed.

b. Downtown Concert Series

Martin Manahan and Chip Sawyer discussed options and ideas for the 2013 Concert Series in light of a goal to reduce the budget as well as the general disruption of the Streetscape Project. Marty has been talking to Chow! Bella about open mic nights in the Park. Concerts could also be coordinated with the Farmers Market. The idea of using the Peoples Trust Company parking lot has also be explored.

Sandy Mayotte proposed the idea of having businesses like AN Deringer sponsor a concert.

5. Committee Updates

- a. Design – The last meeting focused on tree planting and landscaping discussions with Streetscape Project landscape architect Mike Willard.
- b. Economic Restructuring – Has been discussing the options for the Concert Series. Talking about ways to support businesses affected by Streetscape. Looking into the possibility of a new food cooperative store in Downtown as well as the possibility of a weekday evening Farmers Market. Liz Gamache asked about the possibility of putting up more signs for open businesses along the Streetscape Project. The Board discussed the temporary location of the Saturday Farmers Market in the southeast corner of Taylor Park during the Streetscape Project.
- c. Organization – No report.
- d. Promotion – Had also been discussing ideas for the Concert Series. Working with the Maple Festival to encourage business window displays. Reviewing the results of the Event Survey. Chip Sawyer used this opportunity to let the Board know that discussions with the Maple Festival on their future in Downtown St. Albans were going well. A meeting with representatives, Sawyer, Gamache and Councilor Jim Pelkey was scheduled. Liz Gamache asked for volunteers to march in the City section at the beginning of the Maple Festival Parade.

6. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Sandy Mayotte to approve the minutes of the 03/19/13 meeting as presented. Seconded by Jim Walsh and approved with all in favor.

7. Other Business

Jeff Young gave a brief update on improvements planned for Taylor Park in 2013. Jeff Bean asked if the City could pay for business's banners during the Streetscape Project. Bean also asked about which demographics local businesses are targeting and how the Downtown should be marketed. Discussion ensued about moving the Taylor Park Fountain restoration fundraising forward.

8. Public Comment

No public comment.

9. Adjourn

Motion by Jim Walsh to adjourn at 6:45 PM. Seconded by Mike Blouin and approved unanimously.