

Minutes of Meeting Downtown Grant Review Board

Via Zoom and City Website www.newtongov.org

March 24, 2021

ROLL CALL: Board members present: Poynter, Coyle, Chabot, Reinheimer, Terlouw, Berndt, Terpstra

Board members absent: Poynter

STAFF PRESENT: Erin Chambers, Director of Community Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Yeager, Newton Main Street
Jerry Schwaller
Laura Jochems

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chair Poynter.

Minutes. Minutes of the February 17, 2020 meeting were reviewed, corrected and approved. **Motion** by Chabot, **seconded** by Terlouw, 6-0, Unanimous Approval.

Correction: Add Cindy Sell under "Others Present"

New Business.

A. Bruns Dental Office, 112 1st Avenue East

Erin Chambers reviewed the prepared staff report for new windows in the second story. Terpstra asked about the dentist business element of the property. There was discussion about the second story apartment. Terlouw stated she believed the project was a no-brainer.

Motion by Chabot, **Seconded** by Berndt to approve the façade grant in an amount of \$2,800 provided a 1:1 match is met. 6-0, Unanimous Approval

B. CRH Properties, 117 1st Avenue West

Erin Chambers reviewed the prepared staff report for painting and signage. Terlouw asked about the red box above 2nd story door. Discussion about symmetry. Terpstra noted a concern about not putting an awning back stating she feels it looks a bit stark and cold. Reinheimer stated that from a historian point of view, typically north facing buildings would not have an awning. Applicant, Laura Jochems, expressed desire not to have an awning due to need for good lighting for the quilts. She indicated she had concerns about snow on an awning as well.

Motion by Chabot, **Seconded** by Coyle to approve the façade grant in an amount of \$1,510, provided a 1:1 match is met and the project is as submitted by the applicant, 6-0, Unanimous Approval

C. Northwestern Mutual, 117 West 2nd Street North

Erin Chambers reviewed the prepared staff report for the multifaceted project including non-historic façade removal, signage, awnings, and architectural fees. Terlouw thanked the applicant for investing in Newton and stated that this is a wonderful project. Reinheimer concurred and asked if the applicant was the agent at the office. Jerry Schwaller responded stating he was the agent splitting his time between this office and an office in West Des Moines.

Motion by Reinheimer, **Seconded** by Chabot to approve a grant in an amount up to \$15,630.00 provided a 1:1 match is met for each program area, 6-0, Unanimous Approval.

Discussion on color scheme and state farm. Jerry Scwhaller shared his screen via the Zoom format to discuss the options. Color will depend on requirements by State Farm.

Old Business. Motion by Chabot, **Seconded** by Berndt to remove "Selection of Officers" from the table, 6-0, Unanimous Approval.

Discussion that the group was missing current chair Poynter. The Board desired to continue discussion to the next meeting, but wanted to find out who might be willing to serve in case there is another absence at the next meeting.

Coyle stated she would be willing to serve as an officer.

Terpstra stated she would be willing to serve as an officer.

Terlouw stated she would be willing to serve as an officer.

Adjournment. Motion by Berndt to adjourn the meeting and **Seconded** by Chabot. 6-0, Unanimous Approval. Meeting adjourned at 9:46 AM.