

Minutes of Meeting
Newton Downtown SSMID Board
Via Zoom & City Website: www.newtongov.org

June 8, 2021

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

R. O'Brien; J Prendergast; A. Leber; M. Pryke

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Armstrong, Development Specialist; Erin Yeager, Newton Main Street

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by Chair O'Brien.

Review of Minutes. The Minutes of the SSMID Board Meeting on May 11, 2021 were reviewed and approved. MOTION by Pryke, seconded by Leber. Voice Vote (Unanimous).

Finance Report. The May 31, 2021 Finance Report was not available for review at this meeting and will be emailed subsequently to SSMID board members. Review and approval of the Finance Report was tabled by Chair O'Brien until the following SSMID board meeting.

New Business.

a. Expiring Terms for Prendergast & Leber. Armstrong noted that both Prendergast and Leber had SSMID commissioner terms expiring on June 30, 2021. Both indicated a desire to be re-appointed by the Mayor to another term on the SSMID board, approved at the next City Council meeting on June 21, 2021.

b. July Board Meeting. Armstrong requested that the SSMID board forgo the July board meeting in consideration of Armstrong's FMLA leave in July. There was consensus among the members to skip the July meeting and Chair O'Brien set the next monthly meeting for Tuesday, August 10th.

Old Business.

a. Additional SSMID projects – FY 21-22. Item tabled by Chair O'Brien until the August 10th meeting, following a review of the current Finance Report. O'Brien asked board members to consider potential projects (e.g., additional Christmas decorations, adding planters, alleyway improvements, etc.) and come prepared to discuss and decide on which project options to approve.

b. Update on Floral Planter project – (Yeager). The floral planters are all placed and planted with floral displays. The bunkers are also planted with flowers and Randy Ray added mulch and fertilizer to them.

c. Downtown Flag Display Schedule – (Yeager/Maki). The new "floral print" flags will be going up on Monday, June 14. Main Street will work to keep flags rotated and changed out to reflect events and seasons.

d. Other. None.

"Lightning Round" updates from community partner organizations: MAIN STREET – Erin Yeager reported that the Farmer's Market had resumed on every Tuesday afternoon and that many events were scheduled for downtown during Newton Fest, Thursday (6/10) through Saturday (6/12). DDNA – Prendergast reported that the retailers downtown were preparing for a big Newton Fest weekend, with some stores open earlier on Saturday and Memaw's food truck parked downtown to serve the shoppers. BOB O'BRIEN – Reported that the Jasper County Supervisors had approved placement of 50 amp electric power outlets on the Northwest

and Northeast corners of the Courthouse. City has been asked to donate \$1,000 to the project. Thunder Nights will become a subcommittee under Main Street, with all equipment owned by Thunder Nights donated to Main Street for production of all Thunder Nights events in the downtown district.

Meeting Adjournment: At 8:28 a.m. - MOTION by Pryke, seconded by Prendergast. Voice Vote (Unanimous).