

**Downtown Milford, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 4, 2016**

**In Attendance:** Cheryl Doucette, Brad Dennehy, Paige Evers, Lisa Fitzgerald, SaraKate Hammer, Walt Hepford, Sara Pletcher, Bob Starkey, Pat Sparks

**Excused:** Irv Ambrose

**Executive Director:** Lee Nelson

**VISTA Volunteer:** Noa Kornbluh

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by SaraKate Hammer.

The minutes of the January 2016 meeting were amended to add that Irv Ambrose and Mark Dissinger were excused. With that amendment, it was moved, seconded and approved by board members in attendance to accept the minutes.

**President's Report:** Diversity Training for the Board of Directors will take place on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 5:00 PM at Arena's. Discussion was held regarding inviting other non-profits including the theatre, the Chamber of Commerce, the library, and the Art League. After the basic training, the Board of Directors will begin strategic planning to implement increasing diversity in the organization and in the events sponsored by DMI.

This training may take the place of the March Board of Directors meeting.

The Farmer's Market is considering allowing wineries and breweries to participate in the Market this year. There is a question regarding the legality of doing so in the park. Other questions include whether or not there is enough space, is there a waiting list, and if so, would other vendors be bumped in favor of the wineries and breweries.

Lisa Fitzgerald, SaraKate Hammer, and Lee Nelson met with members of City Council, Rob Pierce, Director of Planning and Economic Development, Brad Dennehy, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Eric Norenberg, City Manager to discuss questions about the city's commitment to beautification, code enforcement, and vagrancy. An ongoing concern is the commitment to watering the many plantings around town. This involves Downtown Milford, Inc., the private sector and the city taking part.

The next meeting, which will include the chief of police, will take place on February 19.

It is hoped that the gateway signs project will move forward.

SaraKate Hammer and Lee Nelson met with Eric Norenberg to share the various works of Downtown Milford, Inc.

**Executive Director's:** Lee Nelson met with Kurt Herring to discuss the November and December advertising on WMDT-TV. He also met with Alysha Conroy from WBOC-TV to discuss a similar cooperative advertising campaign in the spring and fall. There is not enough advertising money available in the budgets of various DMI activities to be able to advertise in this manner.

Noa Kornbluh has helped to implement a monthly entrepreneurs' network meeting, which is held the fourth Tuesday of each month with various business hosting. These meetings are bilingual and encourage all business owners to attend.

Work on the We Are Milford multicultural mural continues. The student artists are very passionate about their work and the mentor artists are happy to be part of this program.

Activity highlights of Downtown Milford, Inc. in 2015 are available in the Executive Director's report.

**Financial Report:** A motion was made, seconded and approved by Board members present to accept the Treasurer's report.

Committee reports are available with the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting.

**New Business:**

- Hungry to Help takes place on March 12. DMI will have four tables (DMI, Farmer's Market, Brewgrass Festival and Historic Preservation). This program is sponsored by the City of Milford and Volunteer Delaware and will take place in Milford High School.
- Brad Dennehy announced that the City was not going to do Feathers and Flowers on Easter weekend as this event is not profitable.
- Master Plan update: Mayor Shupe and City Manager Norenberg will meet with Ben Mulgrew to discuss the Master Plan. No date for the meeting has been set.

Date of the next meeting of the Board of Directors is to be determined. All board members are reminded of the Diversity Training on March 14, at 5:00 PM at Arena's.

A motion was made, seconded and approved by members in attendance to end the meeting at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Sparks  
Secretary