

DOWNTOWN MILFORD, INC. BOARD MEETING MINUTES; OCTOBER 1, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Fitzgerald, Mark Dissinger, Walt Hepford, Paige Evers, Bob Starkey, Irv Ambrose.

EXCUSED: Brad Dennehy, SaraKate Hammer, Richard Carmean, Pat Sparks

DIRECTOR: Lee Nelson, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Erica Rae Lokai, Americorps VISTA : Noa Kornbluh

GUEST SPEAKER: Rob Masten of Milford Police Department.

7:02 Irv Ambrose Called Meeting to Order

GUEST SPEAKER: Rob Masten of Milford Police Department

- Patrol officers around the Downtown Milford area this summer were high this year.
- Alcohol use is down in the Milford Parks however free Wi-Fi usage is high in these areas.
- Downtown Milford Area is monitored regularly because it is a “throughway”
- 4 Cameras provide 24 hour surveillance, Masten has offered to show what areas may or may not be covered in camera surveillance.

MINITUES

- September 3rd minutes not available, will review at November’s Board Meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Irv Ambrose

- Vice president is responsible for Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee consists of Irv Ambrose, Walt Hepford, Brad Dennehy, Nancy Benson and Dan Marabello.
- Elections for new board positions will be taking place at the next board meeting.
- Cheryl Doucette will fill the Chamber of Commerce Board Position, no need to vote for her at the election.
- New confirmed candidate, Sara Pletcher

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT: Lee Nelson

- WMDT Cooperative advertising is a go, however we are looking into different businesses to confirm.
- University of Delaware will be conducting a study and will be helping us with a tourism for a town instead of a state. Our role is to be supportive not to be directly involved in this project.
- Downtown Development District: Meeting to learn about 2016 plans, they will not be accepting any new towns.

DIVERSITY PROJECT UPDATE: Noa Kornbluh

- November 15 Food Festival: New Volunteers, News article in Milford Live, looking to promote through the Hispanic Newsletter.
- Mural Project has great progress, March. Artists are: Gilberto Rodriguez, Lori (Blu Butterfly), Demarkus Shaw (Body Canvas). We now have a rough design made up.
- We have signed up to be part of Shop Small Saturday this will take place November. Noa will be holding a meeting to discuss on October 27, 2015 at 9 am in the Library.

FINANCIAL REPORT: (Starkey)

- Financials reports are up to date through September.

- With only one month left in operating year, revenue is up over budget as well as our expenditure. Large Revenue is mostly due to the Brewgrass Festival bringing in about \$14,000.
- Signed Tax forms and sent out.
- Fitzgerald motions to approve Financial Report, Hepford Seconds, and approved by all.

2016 DMI Budget: (Starkey)

- Corrected mistake in Diversity Line Item: Was \$3500, and changed to \$2500.
- 2 New budgets in 2016 are The Santa House with a budget of \$2100 and Holiday Stroll with a budget of \$625.
- Created new expenditure line called Project Pop Up which will fund 2 grant assisted businesses with approved popups.
- Farmers Market budget is restructuring budget and will change funds from Entertainment and move to equipment.
- Motion was made to approve the 2016 DMI Budget by Evers. It was seconded and approved by all board members present.

Do we plan on promoting microloans? ER To discuss.

Design Committee: (Fitzgerald):

Economic Restructuring Committee (Ambrose)

- Farmers Market Is best of Delaware and 34th Best Farmers Market in the Country. Will be in next newsletter.
- Do we plan on promoting microloans? ER To discuss.

Organization Committee: (Evers)

- Eat in the street was a success, numbers indicated we raised \$9-10,000.
- Membership committee will be moving to the square platform as it has less fees.
- Revamping Membership levels for different tiers. Will secure longer memberships.

Promotional Committee (Nelson)

- Holiday Stroll is Progressing, Sara Pletcher is supporting this activity. Street Closures etc. need to be addressed

With no further business to attend to a motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Members present approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 6:30pm, The Annual Member's Meeting, at Arena's Milford.

Respectfully Submitted:

Erica Rae Lokai, filling in for Pat Sparks, Secretary.