

**DOWNTOWN MANITOWOC/MCCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES 10-11-2017**

Called to Order by President Novak at 8:00am at the Capital Civic Centre

Present: Pat Mecca, Gary Stolp, Bonnie Timm, Rick Couron, Chris Hoppe, Karen Nichols, Lorinda Tulachka, Naomi Raddatz, Matt Schliesman, Karen Duvalle, Brian Gilbert, Barb Gelhausen, Lori Wanden, Barb Bundy-Jost, Jeremiah Novak, Vickie Seehafer, Lori Hagenow, Katelyn Burton, Tim Gadzinski, Nic Sparacio, Amber Daugs, Nicole Turk, James Turk

Clipper City Co-op: A presentation was giving from this group. It is a community-owned grocery store dedicated to providing access to locally sourced food, strengthening the regional economy, and promoting health and well-being. They are striving for 1000 owners. Benefits to business owners being a member, the Clipper City Co-op will promote other business owners on their website and to all the co-ops' members. You can become a member with a one-time investment of \$200.00. They have a business model and hope to be continuing forward with a site selection and then potentially building in 2018-2019. They will be having a full presentation at the Capital Civic Centre on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 from 5 to 7:30pm. Please join them to learn more about their initiative.

Visitor's Guide: Jeremiah asked anyone to get any changes to their ad for the Visitor's guide to him by Friday, October 13 so he can get them to the VIC. There is also still one ad available for \$150.00 to any Downtown Business, email Jeremiah if you are interested. Manitowoc's map will be in the center fold out this year.

Harvest Fest: There was great weather and a great turnout of people at this event. Businesses said they did very well on the retail side. The antique tractors and firetrucks were a huge draw and we would like to continue that for next year, possibly adding to the display. Farmers Market Vendors were very pleased with the day overall. We should possible look at extending the day to keep people down there longer, offering more things. Some people came down later in the day and were disappointed everything was being torn down or already gone.

Evergleams on 8th: They will be brought back this year with 2 people bringing their collection of trees to Downtown Manitowoc. We are looking to get more participants to display the trees. There is a fee to put your business on the map, even if you are displaying your own trees. This will allow people to see where all the trees are. There will be a trolley running and for a small fee, people will be able to board the trolley, stop and get off to shop and then get back on and continue the viewing. The committee is trying to put together a book with the history of these trees and photos that people can potentially purchase. Also, there will be a 5th ornament to sell and a way to celebrate Manitowoc's history. If you still want to do a display please contact Cathy Karl at Heart and Homestead immediately if they want to participate in Evergleams display because she plans to start working with Steve & Fran by the end of Oct.

Capital Civic Centre: Matt Schliesman gave a presentation on their growth plan for the future and was asking for our feedback on their potential plans. They want to be more user friendly which would include more comfort and services, including new seating, wider and more leg room, improving the house lighting, improving traffic flow, increasing restroom capacity and lobby expansion. They are in discussion with a fundraising consultant to see if the money is out there, with a dollar amount they are working with around 2.5 million, more than the Capital has ever raised in the past. A decision will be made later this fall. A suggestion was made to look at adding ADA accommodations in the middle of the ground floor, for those that cannot get to the back or to another level.

Open Discussion: Treat Street will be October 28, 2017 from 1 to 3pm. If you want to have your name listed on the website for this event, please contact Cathy Karl at Heart and Homestead by October 20th, 2017. If you need posters for this event to display in your windows, you can pick these up at Heart and Homestead starting Thursday, October 12, 2017.

A reminder about the Downtown Manitowoc Master Plan – Community Kick-Off Event tonight, October 11th, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the Capitol Civic Center

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 8 at 6pm at the Maritime Museum.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Timm
Recording Secretary