

**Downtown Manitowoc Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 9, 2019 8:00AM**  
**Manitowoc Public Library**

**Attendance:**

Jeremiah Novak, Novak's Service, Chair	Amber Daug, Grow It Forward
Heidi Benjamin, Wisconsin Maritime Museum	
Bonnie Timm, Fox Communities Credit Union	Jeff Dvorachek, Hawkins Ash CPA
Cathy Karl, Heart & Homestead	Barb Bundy Jost, Stage Door Pub
Vickie Seehafer, Aspire Realty	Lori Hagenow, Aspire Realty
Tim Gadzinski, Manitowoc Public Library	Rick and Linda Couron, Hearty Olive
April Kroner, City of Manitowoc	Abigail Diaz, Wisconsin Maritime Museum
Kristin Stoeger, Manitowoc Public Library	Julie Peot, UnitedOne Credit Union
Barb Schlei, Manitowoc Pharmacies	

Meeting called to order at 8:00am by Chair, Jeremiah Novak.

**Welcome & Introductions:**

**Treasurers Report:** Given by Jeff Dvorachek, Treasurer We currently have 41 Paid Members. There are still outstanding visitors guide for 2018 and outstanding memberships. Explained the new financials we will be seeing. Jeff explained that the balloon glow committee will be looking at what their fixed costs are to determine a proper reserve in the event of bad weather, where some expenses are hard costs and would have to be paid regardless.

**Visitors Guide:** These guides are complete with 21 ads being place on the downtown map section. These books should be available around January 10, so please contact the Manitowoc Visitor Center after that date to pick up your boxes. Jason Ring will be doing some delivery, put he would like to find someone downtown that would be willing to store some extra boxes for downtown merchants if they run out and need them quickly. Contact Jason if you are willing to keep a couple on boxes on hand.

**City Update:** April Kroner told those present that they are in the process of recruiting for an associate planner position. It would require some experience in downtown business planning and would also be responsible for the housing program.

The Master Plan was approved at the December 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting and there will be some scheduled public meetings in January or February to roll out to the community.

There will be changes to the Farmers Market site and they are meeting with all involved to get input on how that area should look. Nothing will be started until after the 2019 Farmers Market Season has ended.

Wayfinding signage meetings are being held to decide on placement of directional signage.

Downtown Façade Grants program will be put in place for a matching grant up to \$25,000.00.

Downtown Trees are being discussed as to the future for the present trees and/or possible new trees.

They are looking for someone from the downtown group to work with the city forester for ideas.

You can contact April at [akroner@manitowoc.org](mailto:akroner@manitowoc.org) if you have any questions about any of these things.

**Library:** Family Activity nights are every Tuesday from 6:30pm to 7pm. Tuesday, January 22nd will be a Kitty Party along with the Lakeshore Humane Society.

February and March on Monday nights will be the Great Decisions Event from 6pm to 8pm. They have lined up a great list of speakers for these evenings.

Saturday, March 2, 2019 is their second annual fundraiser "Bet on the Library" with a casino night. Strategic planning process is underway to develop of 5 year plan for the library.

As always go to their website <http://www.manitowoclibrary.org/children/> for more information.

**MAVCB:** No report

**Progress Lakeshore:** No report

**Wisconsin Maritime Museum:** They have for sale a 2019 Events Calendar as a fundraiser with all of their events for the year. They have 89 new initiatives included on this calendar. You can purchase them at the museum.

**Capital Civic Centre:** No report

**Grow It Forward:** Amber reported there is a new Board President and some new directors. They are in the planning stage for Farmers Market and there will be one additional night market. They are working with Brennan Seehafer Productions for the entertainment side.

Winter market is being held at St. Johns UCC at 1501 Marshall Street. They will be having a ribbon cutting on January 17<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm. Please join them.

They served over 25,000 visitors and there were 75 vendors at the summer market and had 15,000 people at the night markets.

**Open Discussion/Announcements:**

Cathy Karl reported that Evergleams on Eighth' is only 10 months away and 2019 will be the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of production of these unique trees. She asked that there be more involvement and excitement to create a better buzz for this beautiful event.

Cocoa Crawl will be held February 2 from 11am to 2pm. For businesses to participate--Contact Katie Schamburek at Glaze & Paint, 909 Washington St. She wants completed form & \$10 fee by Jan. 21 920.242.1917. Businesses just need to supply a 'special' cocoa for the 3 hours, the cups, posters, voting slips, prizes are provided for the fee!

Elks Winterfest-formerly known as Ice on 8<sup>th</sup> will be held on February 9, 2019. Aspire Real Estate and Allstates Rigging are the major sponsors for the event. There again will be a band and ice sculptors, both amateur and professional.

**Next Meetings:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019<sup>h</sup>, place to be determined.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9am**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Bonnie Timm, Secretary**