

**DOWNTOWN MANITOWOC/MCCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES 12-13-2017**

Called to Order by Patricia Mecca at 8:00am at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum

Present: Pat Mecca, Gary Stolp, Bonnie Timm, Rick Couron, Karen Nichols, Karen Duvalle, Brian Gilbert, Jeremiah Novak, Vickie Seehafer, Lori Hagenow, Tim Gadzinski, Jeff Dvorachek, Lindsey Krause.

Guests from Lakeshore Artists Guild Cheryl Mahowald and Jill Iverson gave a presentation about an event coming to downtown Manitowoc presented by the Artists Guild in September of 2018. There will be some outdoor events and then indoor closing reception. The event may include a poetry slam and mural project. They are in the planning stage and are looking for businesses to get involved in a variety of ways: sponsorships, hosting local musicians in their businesses and any other way they would like. The next meeting will be at Manitowoc Coffee, Wednesday December 20, 2017 and everyone is welcome. They had a question about Downtown Manitowoc's insurance and what it would cover. The insurance does cover any business that is a member of Downtown Manitowoc. The organization is looking to make it an annual event and their goal is to get people to come to the downtown area and celebrate art!

Finances: Treasurer Mecca reported that 44 members had paid their dues and 2 businesses have not paid their dues nor their publication invoice. Invoices for the Visitors Guide will be going out soon.

Evergleams on 8th: Has been a successful event with many people on the trolley from all over the US. There were people that knew a lot of history on the trees and many that worked on them. They still have spots for the weekend coming up. Books that were produced by Cathy Karl are still available at Heart and Homestead.

Ice on 8th: The Manitowoc Elks will be the sponsor of the event this event and will be coordinating the event with the help of others. Businesses will be receiving information on blocks of ice that will be available for purchase along with carver information.

City Update: One third through the Downtown Master Plan and there will be a public meeting in January to present it to the community. Parking Study is complete and has found a couple areas of concern. There is excess parking in the downtown area at this time and the lease on the public parking space South of the river was not renewed. Both studies are available on the City's website along with the Park Study. Citizens and businesses can go to the website to read all of them.

Progress Lakeshore: Lindsey Krause reported that the Employee Benefit Survey is complete and results will be coming at a Lunch and Learn that they will be sponsoring. Nominations for the Progress Lakeshore awards have been opened up at this time for their annual breakfast. They are also working with the downtown Master Plan study.

Chamber Update: Dash for Cash through the Chamber is going very well and Chamber Bucks are selling at a 17% increase over last year. Businesses are purchasing them for their employees.

Open Discussion: Balloon Glow is set for Friday, August 17, 2018 and we will be having the SubPub again.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 10, 2018 at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Timm, Recording Secretary