

**DOWNTOWN MANITOWOC/MCCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES 5-10-2017**

Called to Order by President Novak at 6:15pm.

Present: Bonnie Timm, Zita Gehl, Barb Gelhausen, Jody Dubinsky, Rick Couron, Vickie Seehafer, Michelle Linville, Karen Nichols, Gary Stolp, Lawrence Hansen, Tim Gadzinski, Karen Duvalle, Sherry Paszkiewicz, Sandra Ronski, Corey Zoerb, Jason Ring, Pat Mecca

Financial: Pat Mecca gave a financial report. 46 paid memberships, 1 new for 17/18. There are still outstanding memberships, Hotel Guide 17 paid, Ice on 8th 5 paid. Invoices are being sent out for those unpaid.

Planters: Met with the city and they would like to see the design for the planters before they put their stamp of approval on them for a permanent structure on the street. There is an issue with Brandon Gauthier getting materials from the Mirro building at this time. City has scrap materials and he will check with Allstates Rigging to see what they have so he can move forward. We do not want to rush the project, as we want a great result. Downtown Manitowoc will be paying for the first 6 planters when they are ready. Goal would be to have other businesses purchase more for the future. We will be planting and putting in the regular brown planters toward the end of May in the meantime.

Logo Designs: Karen Nichols presented some sample graphics. Some of the feedback was: location does not really say who we are, so maybe go back to Downtown Manitowoc Association on the logo. Lampposts may not be identifiable objects, possibly the Courthouse Dome, bridges, etc. would be better. Karen will take these suggestions back and new samples will be emailed out to all and to please vote and return by a certain date so we can move forward.

Krazy Daze: Board discussed piggy backing this year with Subfest, but look at a possible date change for next year, such as Thursday to encourage people to come down for the sales as a preview to Subfest. Karen from the Maritime Museum talked about the walking tour that will be free to businesses in the downtown area. The Museum is looking for photos of what the buildings downtown looked like and what they housed during WW II. They are having a Maritime History Bus Tour and the Skyline Princess tour on the river. Maritime Museum is working on print materials and would love to see Red White and Blue decorations up and down 8th Street during the Subfest.

City Update: Jason Ring shared an event Windigo Fest around Halloween. There will be a hearse parade and the City will be putting grant money into this. Discussion and questions ensued on how Downtown Manitowoc could get grant money for the events that they host, such as Lakeshore Balloon Glow. All businesses should try to work together on events to help out everyone in the area. Working together is always a better plan and we all bring something to the plate. Grant applications are now available online at the City's website. The Room Tax Commission votes on the applications.

Grow It Forward: Amber Daugs reported that they had 11 vendors participate in the first day of Farmers Market. The frost delayed some in what they had available. They are advertising in the HTR and looking at possibly doing some radio ads. They are working on their charter and immediate issues,

such as location of the Tuesday market, potentially Washington Park. Paradise Foods is already being asked to move out as building was sold.

VIC: Carferry is scheduled to arrive on 5/19 at noon. Please post signs in your businesses and the festivities will start at about 11:30am at the Carferry Docks. 11:45 to 12:15 is expected arrival time. They are trying to rally people downtown. Jason Ring told the group to get their event submitted on line to VIC (Visitor and Information Center) as soon as possible. They also use this calendar to decide on what to put on their digital signage.

Open Discussion: The Seamstress will be celebrating their 20th Anniversary with a ribbon cutting at 11:30 on Friday 5-12. Congratulations to Barb and her staff.

Ladies Night Out---27 businesses participating. The Ladies will get maps that show all partnering businesses. They will receive a ticket and if they get it stamped with a minimum of 4 businesses on each side of the bridge they will be entered in a mystery prize drawing.

Maritime Museum will be having Women of the War dress up contest during Subfest. There will be three categories and Women of the War Tribute Wall. They are looking for any photos to share with the visitors to Subfest.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Timm
Recording Secretary