

**CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS**  
**GONZALES MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**  
**VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**  
**MINUTES – July 28, 2020**

NOTICE is hereby given that, pursuant to Section 551.045 of the Texas Government Code and the March 16, 2020 order by the Governor of the State of Texas, the Gonzales Main Street Advisory Board will hold its regular meeting on July 28, 2020 at 5:30 pm., via teleconference in accordance with Governor Abbott's order.

This meeting notice, agenda and agenda packet are posted online at [www.gonzales.texas.gov](http://www.gonzales.texas.gov).

In accordance with Governor Abbott's Executive Order 29 issued on July 2, 2020 every person attending the meeting shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth unless the person is under 10 years of age or has a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering.

*On March 16, 2020, Governor Abbott suspended several provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act for the duration of his statewide declaration of disaster, including the new requirement (added by H.B. 2840 last legislative session) that the public has a right to speak on agenda items. This DOES NOT apply to statutorily mandated public hearings, such as zoning and similar hearings. The Governor has since clarified his intent and stated that citizens should be allowed to offer comments by other means.*

*In person attendance by the public will be limited to 13 which is 50% capacity of the room less Gonzales Main Street Board Members and required staff and should be separated by at least six (6) feet from other groups attending the meeting together. A temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings has been granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.*

The public toll-free dial in number to participate in the telephone conference is hosted through FreeConferenceCall.com.

Toll-free call in number: **1-844-854-2222**

When asked for an access code enter **348787#**

It is not necessary to announce yourself when you join the teleconference.

A recording of the telephone conference will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Open Meetings Act upon written request.

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Gregory Webb called the Main Street Meeting to order on July 28, 2020 at 5:32 pm. The following board members were present constituting in a quorum: Debbie Toliver, Amy Cernosek, Connie Dolezal, Karen Jacobs, Meena Patel, both D'Anna Robinson and John Boothe called in. Carlos Camarillo and Cheri Lane were absent. Also present were Liz Reiley, Main Street Director, and guest, Don Page.

### **HEARING OF RESIDENTS**

Temporarily suspended as noted above. However, Karen Jacobs spoke about her interest in applying to the CVB. Gregory Webb encouraged continuity between the Boards and encouraged her to apply.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of the July 2020 Minutes. Karen Jacobs mentioned the spelling of COVID was incorrect. Discussion was had. No other Board Member had an issue with the spelling. No changes were made. Karen Jacobs made the motion to accept the minutes as is Debbie Toliver seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED**

2. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Business Improvement Grant Application with 515 NSJ LLC (located at 515 Saint Joseph).**

Discussion was held. Karen Jacobs moves to void the grant given to 515 NSJ LLC & 517 NSJ LLC. Connie Dolezal seconded. Discussion was held. Since Grant Rules were not followed, and the application and grant funds have been voided, Liz Reiley requested that the motion be amended to reflect that the Grant Funds would be returned to GEDC. Karen Jacobs made an Amendment to the motion. Karen Jacobs moves to Cancel the Grant Application with 515 NSJ LLC and 517 NSJ LLC and have the Grant Funds returned to the GEDC. Connie Dolezal seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Business Improvement Grant Application with 517 NSJ LLC (located at 517 Saint Joseph).**

Discussion was held. Karen Jacobs moves to void the grant given to 515 NSJ LLC & 517 NSJ LLC. Connie Dolezal seconded. Discussion was held. Since Grant Rules were not followed, and the application and grant funds have been voided, Liz Reiley requested that the motion be amended to reflect that the Grant Funds would be returned to GEDC. Karen Jacobs made an Amendment to the motion. Karen Jacobs moves to Cancel the Grant Application with 515 NSJ LLC and 517 NSJ LLC and have the Grant Funds returned to the GEDC. Connie Dolezal seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Business Improvement Grant Application with Rafe Jackson (located at 726 Saint Paul).**

Discussion was held. Rafe Jackson would like to amend the amount of the grant, to include additional costs. Amy Cernosek made a motion to allow the amended amount, Connie Dolezal seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Business Improvement Grant Application with ACE Invest, LLC (located at 608 Saint Paul).**

Don Page was at the meeting to present additional information (he provided documents to all Board Members present). Discussion was held. Don Page did confirm that the Alcalde Hotel is going to be connected to the Texian Heritage Center, it would be a Hotel & Conference Center. Amy Cernosek makes a motion to approve the Grant Application for Ace Investment LLC for \$15,000.00 (Fifteen thousand dollars), Debbie Toliver seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Board Training with Sarah O'Brien on August 25<sup>th</sup> & September 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

Discussion was held. All Board members are requested to attend, as Sarah O'Brien will be providing invaluable information relating to the operation(s) and responsibilities of the Main Street Board. To help ensure all Board Members attend, the training will take place at the regularly scheduled August 25<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 meeting, from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm. Location will be at GG's Steak & Spirits. This training workshop will be paid for from the Executive Director's Training Budget. No motion was needed.

7. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Happy Fall Yall on October 24, 2020.**

Discussion was had. Connie Dolezal makes a motion to cancel all activities and/or events for Happy Fall Yall which was to be held on October 24, 2020. Debbie Toliver made the second. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The Happy Fall Yall committee will meet, and then send Liz Reiley a proposal for possible decorations.

**REPORTS:**

**Line Items 8, 9, 10, & 11: Promotion, Organization, Design and Economic Vitality Committee Report(s):**

All matters are to be tabled as the next two Main Street Board Meetings scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>, are for Board Training. As matters arise, Liz Reiley will email the Board Members. Gregory Webb did speak as to how Liz Reiley is doing exceptionally well with her position as Main Street Manager. Karen Jacobs thanked Liz Reiley for keeping main street board members informed. Gregory Webb spoke about continuity between boards, and how Liz Reiley has been busy cleaning house, and getting up to speed. Liz Reiley and Gregory Webb then spoke about upcoming projects for Main Street, and how GEDC will be funding it. GEDC would like at least 3 bids for each project. Railings, trash bins, recycle bins, and banners for the poles—seasonal, special occasions, parks dept will help put them up. Estimating Main Street will need \$60,000 (Sixty thousand dollars) for all the upcoming projects. Karen Jacobs asked about Beautification. Gregory Webb stated that GEDC President Andy Rodriguez wanted to meet with both Liz Reiley and Gregory Webb, in regard to that topic. They will update the Board Members as discussion is held. Liz Reiley spoke briefly about Christmas decorations.

9. **Financial Report for the month of June:** The Financial Report was inadvertently left out of the Agenda Packet. The report will be emailed to Board Members for review.

10. **Main Street Manager Liz Reiley's Report:**

- Touched on receiving positive feedback for the Star-Spangled Spectacular.
- The two vacancies on the Main Street Board would be filled at the October 2020 City Council meeting.
- Applying for the TXCDBG Community Development Grant for the sidewalk in and around the 400 block of St. James.
- Reminded all Board Members of the Stage Presentation on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM.

- Working with Alex Trevors, a local photographer. Ms. Trevors will help to enhance the website for Main Street designated businesses for database on Downtowntx.org. Information will include everything necessary to market local downtown businesses.
- Working with GEDC Director Kim Tucker to redesign the Main Street Façade Grant. Goal is to make it easier to read, apply for and tie into GEDC.

Discussion was held on to how to conduct regular Main Street business, since the next two meetings are for board training. Liz Reiley said that Board Members should email her directly, and she will communicate with all Board Members as such matters arise.

11. **Requests by Board Members for items on future agendas.**

Please email Liz Reiley directly and she will communicate with all Board Members as such matters arise.

12. **Announcements by Board Members:** Karen Jacobs asked about what the Building next to Sweet B's was. Discussion was held.

13. **Set Date and Time for Next Meeting.**

Gregory Webb mentioned that the next meeting is August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm at GG's Steak & Spirits. This is a Board Training. Dinner is available for purchase, on your own, should you choose. Liz Reiley mentioned that all Board Members should plan to attend. Discussion was held about making it mandatory. Each Board Member is encouraged to attend, as invaluable information will be presented.

**ADJOURN**

No further matters were discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm by Chairman Gregory Webb, Karen Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting, Connie Dolezal seconded.

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Liz Reiley, Main Street Manager

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Gregory Webb, Chairman

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Karen Jacobs, Secretary

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Meena Patel, Recording Secretary

