

CITY OF GONZALES, TEXAS
GONZALES MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

MINUTES – JUNE 23, 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 regularly scheduled meeting June 23, 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.

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.

This meeting will be closed to in person attendance by the public. 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.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gregory Webb called the Main Street Meeting to order on June 23, 2020 at 5:31 pm. The following members were present constituting in a quorum: Debbie Toliver, Meena Patel, Amy Cernosek, Connie Dolezal, Karen Jacobs, Cheri Lane, John Boothe, Carlos Camarillo, D'Anna Robinson (joined meeting at 5:46 pm via telephone,

she was delayed due to technical difficulties). Also present was Liz Reiley.

HEARING OF RESIDENTS

Temporarily suspended as noted above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of May 26, 2020 Minutes. Karen Jacobs would like to point out that all names of Board Members listed, should be stated in uniformed fashion. Please list the Board Member's first and last name in the minutes. With these changes, the motion to accept the May 26, 2020 minutes were moved to be approved with changes, by Karen Jacobs and seconded by Connie Dolezal. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

2. **Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Star Spangled Spectacular and Fireworks:**

Discussion was held. Karen Jacobs stated if we can have rally's we can have Music and Fireworks. Greg Webb stated all that attend should be accompanied by an adult and take all precautions to stay safe. Liz Reiley listed in detail all the items she arranged for this event including but not exclusive to portable restrooms, hand washing stations. Liz Reiley directed all Board Members to review the checklist she created which had the schedule of events, along with all the responsibilities of Main Street Board for this event. Liz Reiley requested all Board Members to read and review. Debbie Toliver then spoke about water bottles, decorations. Greg Webb spoke about the talent hospitality rider and items for talent. Discussion was held about

what to provide versus what is requested. Liz Reiley pointed out that the Talent Rider states “if available.” Meena Patel suggested Board members gather to donate the items requested. Debbie Toliver stated that each board member will be given a t-shirt, that each sponsor will receive a t-shirt, and that t-shirts will be sold at the event. Liz Reiley again pointed out to the Board, about the checklist she created and asked Members to review, so they would have a better understanding of timeline, etc. Meena Patel moved to approve the Star-Spangled Spectacular Events to move forward as presented. Karen Jacobs made the second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding what dates the Main Street Board will be available for 2020 Sponsor Photos.

Liz Reiley stated that it would be ideal for all Board Members to be present for the Sponsor Photographs. GVEC is scheduled for Wednesday June 24th at 8 am, Three Amigos is at 2pm; Nicki V’s Food Mart will be Thursday at 2pm. Debbie Toliver is going to talk to Sonic to see if they can take photo at same time, due to their location. Meena Patel suggested for future Sponsor Photos, that the Board Members come up with a more accommodating method of taking sponsor photos. A date and time given to all Board Members in advance, so more Members can be present. Liz Reiley then explained how due to CO-VID this year, things were a little chaotic, but that would be ideal for the upcoming year. No motion was made. Discussion ended.

4. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Façade Grant on 726 Saint Paul Street. Discussion was held. Connie Dolezal spoke about the awning and the windows. Liz Reiley directed the Board Members to the face sheet she created in the agenda packet which listed all the cost amounts. Liz Reiley asked for someone to double check the amounts. Liz Reiley then

explained how the Grant application worked, and how much funding each applicant was allocated. Meena Patel moved to approve the Façade Grant on 726 Saint Paul Street, Amy Cernosek and Connie Dolezal seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 5. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding changing the Recording Secretary from Main Street Director to a current Board Member.** Discussion was held. Greg Webb indicated that it was too much for Liz Reiley to conduct meeting and take minutes, therefore it was only fair that a sitting Board Member be nominated to take over the task. Greg Webb nominated and suggested Meena Patel. Meena Patel accepted nomination. Karen Jacobs moved to change the Record Secretary from the Main Street Director to Board Member Meena Patel, effective immediately. Debbie Toliver seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote. Meena Patel is now the Recording Secretary for Main Street Board.
- 6. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding board training for the Main Street Advisory Board.** Discussion was held about the 2 (two) open Board Member positions. Liz Reiley confirmed that 3 (three) applications have been submitted. D'Anna Robinson inquired about the names of the people that applied. Liz Reiley then confirmed that Christine Presley from GVEC, Becky Richter from Sage Capital Bank, and Dan Garza, a Pre-Law Student had submitted applications. D'Anna Robinson wanted to clarify the residence requirements of people that apply. Liz Reiley confirmed that the applicant must reside in Gonzales County. Liz Reiley then went on to discuss Main Street Board Training for all Members. Liz Reiley suggested a Board Training in October and that she was in the process of scheduling someone from outside the area to keep it unbiased. The Training would be held in October, during the week. Discussion was held between Greg Web and Karen Jacobs about the Luling training last year.

Later as the meeting progressed, Liz Reiley was able to confirm Board Training would be split up between the September and October 2020 regularly scheduled Main Street Board Meetings. No motion was made. Discussion ended.

- 7. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding the pledges and invocation being added at the beginning of the Main Street Advisory Board Meetings.** Discussion was had. Greg Web asked what type of prayer and pledge. Greg Webb suggested a moment of silence. Meena Patel suggested we rotate prayer and pledges between all Board Members. Connie Dolezal moved to approve that all Main Street Board Meetings begin with a short prayer and/or moment of silence, and pledge to the United States of America Flag. Meena Patel seconded, the motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 8. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding Happy Fall Yall and Winterfest date and activities.** Greg Webb, Karen Jacobs and Debbie Toliver will form a sub-committee in conjunction with the other Board Members to work on activities and events for Happy Fall Yall. Discussion of working with the Lynn Theater was brought up. Meena Patel interjected and advised what transpired at the June 22nd, EDC meeting, that the GEDC Board decided to change the locks to the Lynn Theater, and deliver to them a 10-day written notice to pay the delinquent balance and other fees. Discussion was had. Amy Cernosek spoke about having a band, Greg Web indicated that we would have to have the stage setup, as well as other things. Cheri Lane spoke about having a DJ, Karen Jacobs suggested having a dance. Liz Reiley suggested working with EDC to purchase a movie screen, and work on Trunk or Treat. Connie Dolezal spoke about movie, contest, and trunk or treat. Karen Jacobs suggested working with the Lions Club. Board members were asked to look at Happy Fall Y'all document in agenda packet. Karen Jacobs moved to approve October 24th, 2020 as the date to have Happy Fall Yall. Connie

Dolezal seconded; the motion carried by unanimous vote. Discussion was held regarding Winterfest. Board Members Connie Dolezal, Debbie Toliver, Meena Patel, Amy Cernosek would like to volunteer to be on a sub-committee to discuss Winterfest events.

Liz Reiley stated what events happened in the past years. Getting more of the community involved to help with these events. Amy Cernosek suggested to get in touch with the local schools to see if we can join forces to have the kids help. D'Anna Robinson stated her experience with having kids help with events. Anchor club, art club, and other clubs. D'Anna Robinson suggested to contact the high school as most children need service hours. Liz Reiley asked D'Anna Robinson to speak to the high school, to secure help, she agreed. Board Members were directed to Winterfest document within the agenda packet. Board Members confirmed that Winterfest will be held on Dec 5th, 2020. Liz Reiley confirmed that Winterfest has always been held on the first Saturday of December in conjunction with the Historic Homes tour, and the Christmas Parade. Greg Webb stated he would like to have an update at each meeting on how sub-committees are working towards events. Discussion was held regarding street closures. Connie Dolezal and Debbie Toliver confirmed that the closures are the same as the Come and Take It Parade. Subcommittees are to meet on their own and report back at each meeting. Discussion ended.

- 9. Discuss, Consider, and Possible Action regarding the Main Street Advisory Board creating a Downtown Beautification Project Committee.** Meena Patel spoke about being the liaison between GEDC and Main Street, as she serves on both Boards. Discussion was held in ways to restructure the way Main Street operated and conducted their business. GEDC would like to have a monthly report from Main Street regarding what they are doing, as well as Grant Applications. Greg Webb also added about additional funds for Beautification of the Downtown area.

Discussion was held. It was decided that each Board Member would reach out to someone in the community to see if they would help to form a bigger volunteer committee to Beautify the Gonzales Downtown Area. Each Board Member is to report back at July meeting. Discussion ended.

REPORTS:

Line Items 10, 11, 12, & 13: Promotion, Organization, Design and Economic Vitality Committee Report(s):

Discussion was held. All Board Members agreed to table these items until Main Street Board Training had taken place. With training, Board Members could make a more informed decision as to which committee they wished to serve. Discussion was held in regards to contacting the talent that was scheduled for the 2020 Concert Series to see if they would entertain having the deposit already given to them, if any deposit was given, being moved to another event either in 2020 or for the 2021 Discussion ended.

14. Financial Report for the month of April:

Connie Dolezal, the Treasurer left the meeting prior to this agenda item being called; Item was tabled for July meeting.

15. Main Street Manager Liz Reiley's Report:

Liz Reiley discussed status of pending Grant Applications with Twin Snacks, Don Page, and Sarah Tenberg. The State is complete. Will be delivered to the square on July 1, 2020 between 5:15-5:30 pm, and a demonstration will be held, and recorded, as the City is required to assist. All Board Members are requested to attend. Discussion was held regarding Liz Reiley reaching out to the Texas Main Street for possible grants. Discussion was held. Amy Cernosek requested a deep archive of the history of all buildings downtown be done, so the visiting public could be aware of them. Discussion was had. Matter was tabled for a later time.

16. Requests by Board Members for items on future agendas.

Meena Patel requested that the Beautification Committee be put on the next meeting agenda; Greg Webb requested for the Happy Fall Yall and Winterfest Committee to report back at each meeting until events take place. Liz Reiley confirmed Board Training will take place at September and October meetings.

17. Announcements by Board Members

Karen Jacobs updated the Board about local people testing positive for CO-VID 19. Reminded everyone to use caution. Karen Jacobs asked about Float Fest, wherein other Board Members confirmed that it was indeed cancelled for 2020.

18. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting.

Greg Webb set next meeting for July 28th, at 5:30 pm. Cheri Lane advised Board that she will not be in attendance.

ADJOURN

No further matters were discussed. The meeting was Adjourned at 6:48 pm by Chairman Gregory Webb, and seconded by Karen Jacobs.

Liz Reiley, Main Street Manager

Gregory Webb, Chairman

Karen Jacobs, Secretary

Meena Patel, Recording Secretary