



## **Eatonton Main Street Advisory Board Meeting Agenda April 12, 2022**

### *Eatonton Main Street's Mission Statement:*

*To preserve and to enhance the historical and the cultural character of Eatonton through economic development.*

### *Eatonton Main Street's Vision Statement:*

*Eatonton Main Street will be thriving and beautiful, rich in culture and heritage, sustained by community support.*

**Board Members Present:** Erin Keating, Zavier Reid, Amelia Logan, McKenzie Cardwell, Lacey Cummings, Joseph Rainey (via phone)

**Board Members Absent:** Rebekah Esau and Michael Homeier

**City Staff in Attendance:** Lauren Singleton

**Guests in Attendance:** Janice Westfall

- **Call to Order at 6:02pm by Lauren Singleton**
- **Welcome**
  - EQ Check-In
  - Approval of the Minutes from the March Meeting
    - Motion to approve: Joey
    - Seconded: Lacey
    - No discussion
    - Motion passed 6/0
  - Financial Report
    - A bit concerned Writers Museum hasn't put up awning yet
- **Old Business**
  - Update on Downtown Benches
    - With the help of the Chamber, we're purchasing 6 new benches for downtown
    - They arrived yesterday!
    - Very similar design to the benches by the pool and veterans wall
    - Plan to get more in phases
    - Goal to have these benches out by the Dairy Festival; will be along Marion and Jefferson Streets
    - When we take the old benches out, we've asked that they be placed in the Butterflies and Blooms Park so they can still be used > waiting for the city administrator to let us know the outcome of this
  - Downtown Mural
    - Had some concerns with the drawings from last month: handrail, safety of taking pictures of people with the mural
    - New one is interactive 3 ways
    - Can take a pic of kids from the sidewalk, or take a picture across the street
    - Consensus: like it better than the lady; easier to "comprehend" for where folks can stand, takes the railing and sidewalk width in account, etc.

- Janice stated that putting it on panels will make it easier for her: won't have to deal with stucco, safer for her, won't have to rent equipment. Believe it'll be around \$500 for panels, a few hundred dollars for hardware for installation

- **New Business**

- Hart Family Fund for Small Towns
  - Lauren going to council meeting next week to ask for permission to apply for the grant
  - Grant ranges from \$2500 - \$15k; matching grant
  - Eligible activities
    - Hiring a preservation architect or landscape architect to produce a historic structure report or historic landscape master plan
    - Hiring a preservation planner to produce design guidelines for a historic district
    - Hiring a real estate development consultant to produce an economic feasibility study for the reuse of a threatened structure
    - Sponsoring a community forum to develop a shared vision for the future of a historic neighborhood
  - Lauren's thinking of applying for design guidelines, or landscape master plan for Oak St from the courthouse down to the Uncle Remus museum
  - Concerns: guidelines are not enforceable and city council doesn't have an appetite to make them so. We have a plan (Sumter St) that's already 5 years old and nothing's happened, not sure we need another plan to sit on the shelf right now
  - 3 weeks to submission; Lauren's planning a HUGE event for the day after submission, think her time could be better utilized
  - Motion not to apply for the grant: Erin
  - Seconded: Lacey
  - No discussion
  - Motion passed 6/0
- Manager Update
  - Dairy Festival: Main St is a sponsor. We'll have a booth, need board members to staff with Lauren for the day > put it on your calendar June 4<sup>th</sup> > as you will be needed
  - BBQ & Blues Festival Parking: lots of public interest. Secured livery as the band's hospitality green room area. Have 6 BBQ trucks and 3 dessert trucks. **Need a parking czar and support team to figure out where these folks are gonna park.** Use school buses or Putnam County Transit to coordinate shuttles between the festival and wherever we're gonna have people park.
    - Lacey to follow up with Maggie on parking space metrics
    - Lauren is getting event signs made up for where it is, and for parking
    - Our event starts at 2pm; ESL pageant starts at 630pm at the Plaza; will have some competition for parking
    - Utilize schools' parking lots?
    - Churches?
  - Upcoming Events
  - Property Updates
    - The old jail finally sold to a guy from TX. He's been around lately, asking folks about the area. Rumors abound as to what it will be!
    - 104 E Marion sold for \$40k (behind Maggie Lane); it's being renovated and separated for multiple businesses to coexist
    - Miss Mac Consignment in PW shopping center closed
    - Lux Braid Bar opened on Jefferson
    - Waiting on Refresh Beauty Salon to get their business license
    - Old Dairy building > in process of being bought, want to use as a tai kwon do studio (same folks that have the upcoming florist and gun shop)
    - State Farm's parking lot was redone, looks great!

- **Façade Grants**
  - None at this time
- **Board News & Announcements**
  - Magnolia Market & Chalk Walk on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am until 3:00pm
    - Vendors will begin arriving at 8:00am
    - S. Madison Avenue will be closed next to the old hotel
    - Need volunteers to help with vendor set up (telling them where to set up) and for clean up after everyone leaves to make sure the courthouse is clean
    - 50% chance of rain on Saturday: Lauren will make a call by noon on Friday
  - City Council Meeting on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the Putnam County Administration Building, Room 203
  - Downtown BASH on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm; location TBA
  - Accountability Call moved to Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm due to the BASH
  - Field Trip to Downtown McDonough on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>; meet at City Hall at 8:30am
  - BBQ & Blues Festival on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:00pm until 10:00pm at the Stage
- **Adjournment at 7:22pm**

**Next Meeting: May 10, 2022 | 6:00pm | The Hut**