



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, Xavier 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 4th > 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 16th 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 18th at 7:00pm at the Putnam County Administration Building, Room 203
 - Downtown BASH on Tuesday, April 26th at 5:30pm; location TBA
 - Accountability Call moved to Thursday, April 28th at 6:30pm due to the BASH
 - Field Trip to Downtown McDonough on Saturday, April 30th; meet at City Hall at 8:30am
 - BBQ & Blues Festival on Saturday, May 7th from 2:00pm until 10:00pm at the Stage
- **Adjournment at 7:22pm**

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