

Georgetown Business Association - Meeting of the Board of Directors
Minutes, July 10, 2018
Tidelands Health Community Center

Board Members Present:

Kathryn Kossove
Wanda Rogers
Pam Toemmes
Erin Angner
Andy Friedman
Happy Wilcox

Board Members Absent:

Ginger Gray
Michele Overton
Hank Jones
Lisa Haas
Andrea Johnson
Tamela Walter

Others in Attendance:

Brendon Barber, Mayor, City of Georgetown
Carey Smith, Interim City Administrator, City of Georgetown

Action of the Board

- Meeting was called to order by Andy Friedman.
- Minutes from 6/5/2018 were adopted.

Financial Reports

- The GBA Treasurer's Report was prepared by Happy Wilcox and presented by Andy Friedman. \$650.00 has been deposited from 2018 membership fees. Expenses included two insurance payments of \$128.84 for June and July and \$149.95 for the purchase of a new version of Quickbooks. Two checks to Myrtle Beach Outdoors for billboard space have not cleared the bank so the present balance is \$6,942.28.
- Andy also presented Ginger Gray's report for the MIP/ Events Account. Deposits included receipts from beverage sales from 6/1 and 6/21 MIP events as well as 3 sponsorship payments for a total of \$7,064.83. Expenses for MIP events included payments for security, stage rental, portalets rental, beverages, entertainers, etc. totaled \$16,437.11, leaving a balance of \$18,598.28.
- Andy reported that the balance for the DMO account is 0 since the Chamber will be assuming the management of the DMO funds.

Committee Reports

Design Committee:

Erin shared that the Design Committee will be meeting with Alan Lovelace and Cindy Thompson to discuss the banners that will be placed at the entrances to the City. Representatives of the Design Committee also want to meet with the Manager of the Liberty Steel Georgetown Mill to discuss the possibility of the mill making improvements to their fencing in order to present a more attractive appearance. Parking and parking signage are also issues the Design Committee are discussing. In discussions with Police officers, the parking fine is minimal (\$10) and perhaps needs to be more to deter

people from monopolizing a space for an extended period of time. Parking and parking signage will be added to the agenda for discussion at the GBA General Meeting on July 17.

Old Business

Plastic Free Georgetown – Andy shared an email from Erin Pate, Coastal Conservation League, asking for the GBA’s support in pushing for a Plastic Free Georgetown. The League’s goal is to get a proposal before City Council at their August workshop. After discussion and due to having a small number of Board members in attendance, it was decided that the GBA’s position on a potential ban of single use plastics in the City of Georgetown will be discussed at the GBA General Meeting on July 17.

Events

Music in the Park events have been a big hit. Approximately 4000 people attended *The Tams* concert. There is still a need for volunteers to help with set up and clean up and perhaps with beverage sales for the 7:00 – 9:00 time slot. The MIP Committee will check with the 2 volunteer coordinators handling beverage sales to determine their needs.

New Business

- Andy reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Wendy Belser. Due to increased job-related responsibilities at Brookgreen Garden it has been increasingly more difficult for her to attend Board meetings and she must regretfully resign prior to the end of her term.
- Andy also shared that he had heard from Henry Knight from Columbia, SC who is with an Airstream Owners’ Group wanting to come to Georgetown for an Airstream Rally the weekend of March 1- March 3, 2019. They approached the City about the logistics for holding the event (parking, etc.) but are also interested in events, supporting businesses, and adopting a non-profit. Miss Ruby’s Kids will be hosting a Mardi Gras event as a fund raiser that weekend and could be the non-profit they adopt.

Comments from Mayor Barber and City Administrator Smith

- Mayor Barber shared that the second reading to allow alcoholic beverages to be carried on to the harborwalk by patrons of restaurants/bars will be heard at the City Council Meeting on July 12. Alcoholic beverages would be limited to beer and wine. Patrons would need to have those beverages in clear plastic cups with the logo of the issuing restaurant on the cups.
- Carey Smith shared that the City Council had reached a decision as to what to do about the City Hall that was vacated due to foundation issues. Having received some funds from a settlement, the decision has been made to tear down the present building and put in a new, stronger foundation in order to build a new building. It is going to be more cost effective to build a new building with better utilization of space than trying to reinforce, repair, and renovate the old building.
- Negotiations are moving along on the Hotel Project. City, County, and School District officials will meet on Aug. 7 to discuss and reach an agreement on tax incentives for the hotel. Mr. Smith shared that the architectural design is great, a conference center space, restaurant, and riverside lounge are part of the plan.

- The City has adopted a budget with no increase in taxes and only a small increase in fees for utilities. The new budget has money to fund a position for a City Planner. It is hoped that the person who is hired would also have experience in the area of economic development

General GBA Meetings

- July 17 - Augustus & Carolina
- August 21 – Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce
- September – Andy Friedman hosting, Location – undetermined
- October - November - TBD

Meeting was Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Pam Toemmes