Okmulgee Main Street Board Meeting

May 16, 2024

8:00 AM-Mabrey Meeting Room

**Attendees:** Christie Baldridge Jill Rhodes Mary Lewellen Rusty Milroy Chrisy Brasier

Andy Goodnight Chris Azbell Mark Tuggle

**Absent**: Bryan Dudley Kamie Crawford Katie McElhaney Jesse Allen

Donnie Alexander

**Call to Order**: Andy Goodnight 8:02 AM

**Minutes:** Approved as read. 1st Mary Lewellen 2nd Christie Baldridge

***Financials:*** *Approved as read. 1st Mary Lewellen 2nd Christie Baldridge*

**New Business:**

**New Board Member:** Andy welcomed Chris Azbel to the board.

**Dinner with the Stars**: June 8th 7 to 9 PM. All board members need to attend. All the volunteers are lined up. The food has been decided. So far, we have 20 reservations.

**National Main Street Conference Update**: Rusty Milroy, Mary Lewellen, Margaret Hess, Andy Goodnight and Debbie Haynes attended the conference. They gave an update on some of the classes they attended.

**Committee Chairs:**

**Organization/Membership/Fundraising** - Needs a chairman.

**Promotions**- Kamie Crawford (1st Friday of each month, Main Street office 9:00AM)

Working on Dinner with the Stars. Christy Brasier has talked with PJ at the Tavern, they will take care of the drinks for Dinner with the Stars.

**Economic Vitality** – Margaret Hess (2nd Thursday, Mabrey Meeting Room 8:00AM)

No meeting. Gone to National Convention in Birmingham.

**Design** – Andy Goodnight (3rd Wednesday of each month at Main Street Office 11:00)

Andy gave an update on the funds for Umbrella Alley. All the funds have been raised thanks to the Viersen Foundation, they sent a check in the amount of $4,000.00. Andy said Design would like to do something else in the alley where the Umbrellas were. Shavon Agee was at the design meeting and talked about an event they have in Greenville South Carolina. They have a hidden mouse event, like a scavenger hunt, and the kids go from store to store looking for the mouse. Design talked about doing the same thing with a turtle that would have a connection with Creek Nation. There is a book that goes along with the hidden mouse. Andy said they would like to find a book that would go with the turtle or maybe they could ask Joy Hardgrove, a Creek citizen, if she would like to write a book. Christmas trees around the square were also a topic discussed along with large flower planters to place on the corners of the square.

**Okmulgee Rising Update**:

**GCTC**: They had their graduation ceremony.

**Muscogee Nation**: The Nation is holding an open house for their STEM building located at the College of Muscogee Nation today at 1:00. Chris Azbel invited everyone to attend. Chris said the building would be open to the public. He was asked if we would be able to hold our next board meeting there.

Chris told about the Farmers Market that is held at Loop Square on 75 Highway. It’s held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 8 to 1. Free money for Senior citizens that make $25,000.00 or less.

**OSUIT**: Morris School is holding their graduation exercises at OSUIT. The tornado damaged their football field and the gym.

**Okmulgee City**: Kamie wrote a letter letting the city manager know all the things Main Street is involved in with the city. It was a very impressive list. Main Street turned in their request for city funding.

**Chamber of Commerce**: No Report

**High School Reps. Report**: Andy said one of the sessions he attended at the National Conference was on getting the youth involved. He has some new ideas.

**YMCA**: No report

**New Businesses**: Joe’s Italian has opened where Phillihoma was located on Morton Street.

Apex Title opened at 623 E. 6th. They an invitation for their open house on May 23rd.

Total Wellness has opened on 8th Street and is a new Main Street Member.

**OLD Business:**

Pizza Hut fund raiser: April 23rd $24.00 raised but it did not meet the minimum, so we will not receive a check.

**Hiring Committee update**: Melinda DeSanto, her first day in the office will be June 3.

Mary Lewellen offered her home for a meet and greet to welcome Melinda.

**Date of Next Meeting**: June 20, 2024 8:00AM Mabrey Meeting Room

**Adjournment:** 9:05 1st Mary Lewellen 2nd Christie Baldridge