DOWNTOWN RAVENSWOOD PARTNERS MEETING JANUARY 29, 2025

3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM RAVENSWOOD CITY BUILDING

ATTENDING: Todd Ritchie, Dee Scritchfield, Chris Skeens, Melanie Mosser, Andrea Knopp, Judy Ritchie, Joshua Donohew, Sara Camacho, Martin Unrue, Amy Noble, Robert Godfrey, Karen Corrigan, Dawn Sharp, Chad Sharp and Molly Washburn (John Casey and Jennifer Casey remotely)

CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS: Molly Washburn, Director, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and introduced 5 new committee members.

Todd Ritchie moved to approve minutes from December 16, 2024 meeting. Motion seconded by Andrea Knopp. Motion unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Handbooks for Board Member, Executive Director and Committee were distributed and reviewed. All materials were also emailed to the board and committee members. Each committee needs to decide who will be the acting chair and establish a regular monthly meeting beginning in February. A confidential survey is available to help identify the chairperson.

The Director noted that most of the one year project goals as outlined in the project charter have been accomplished. New goals for the remainder of the year were outlined. Charter goals and progress and Slide details were emailed to the attendees.

A market study is available from the WV Main Street at no cost to us and will be carried out in the Fall of 2025.

Input continues to be obtained from the on line questionnaire as to what the community would like to see downtown and is available for all to read on the website.

Mid Ohio Valley Regional Council is assisting with an application for the Community Development Block grant with the intent to fund the building acquisition and demolition of the McIntosh Building and other related properties on Walnut Street. If approved, they will work closely with SHPO and HLC to preserve historical items.

Once the buildings are down, funding sources may be available from Rural Business Development Grant, ARC Power Grant, and T Mobile Grant. Conceptual ideas were discussed.

The Director requested to attend the National Main Street Conference in Philadelphia, PA April 7-9, 2025. Todd Ritchie moved to approve transportation costs to attend this conference. Registration costs were covered by Main Street WV. Motion seconded by Andrea Knopp. Motion unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

ECONOMIC VITALITY COMMITTEE: An informational meeting and dinner will be held on February 24, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Las Fajitas. Current business owners, property owners, potential businesses are invited to become aware of what Downtown Ravenswood Partners is and share ideas and gain input. Presentations on resources will be provided by Advantage Valley, Jackson County Development Authority, Small Business Development Center and WV Main Street. Board members and committee members are welcome to attend. Coat will be \$200 as Las Fajitas is splitting the cost. Motion made by Martin Unrue to approve cost. Motion seconded by Melanie Mosser. Motion unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Window clings of school children's art work was discussed for empty buildings. There are nine empty windows at a cost of approximately \$600. Members asked the Director to get prices from local businesses.

The Video Proposal from Shane Johnson was discussed at a cost of \$1,000. Andrea Knopp moved to approve the cost for this production. Motion seconded by Melanie Mosser. Motion unanimously approved.

A directory sign design and cost of installation was discussed at approximately \$3400. The sign can be altered as needed. We will try to offset cost by getting buy in from downtown businesses.

CONCLUSION:

Next meeting will be February 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the 3rd Floor Conference Room Ravenswood City Building.

Motion to adjourn made by Melanie Mosser. Motion seconded by Dee Scritchfield. Motion unanimously approved.

Meetings respectfully submitted by Dee Scritchfield

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