

DOWNTOWN RAVENSWOOD PARTNERS MEETING March 17, 2025

3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM RAVENSWOOD CITY BUILDING

ATTENDING: Todd Ritchie, Dee Scritchfield, Melanie Mosser, Gary Cross, Martin Unrue, John Casey, Dawn Sharp, Chad Sharp, Rev. Chris Skeens, Philip Moulton and Molly Washburn. Absent: Jennifer Casey

Guest: Judy Ritchie

CALL TO ORDER: Molly Washburn, Director, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Melanie Mosser moved to approve minutes from December 16, 2024 meeting. Motion seconded by Martin Unrue. Motion unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Committee Updates
 1. Economic Vitality Report given No action taken
 2. Design Committee: Report given. Motion made by Todd Ritchie to obtain a quote from FFA at Ravenswood High on the cost of plants for newly designed planters. Motion seconded by Martin Unrue. Motion passed unanimously.
 3. Promotion Committee: Report given. Todd Ritchie made a motion to spend \$100 a month to boost our Facebook posts to increase visibility and promote activity. Motion seconded by Martin Unrue. Motion passed unanimously.
 4. Board needs to agree on a discretionary spending dollar amount limit for the ED that does not require their advance approval. Tabled until City passes the annual budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

III. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Application for the USDA Rural Business Development Grant for a new downtown parking lot was successfully submitted!
- b. Facade Improvement Grant: submitted a grant application for \$20k from the Fund for Ravenswood.
- c. Design Committee's decision on pursuing a Mural Mosaic paired with an Arts Grant:
 - i. Community Arts Project Support 50% match up to \$20k. Local governments are eligible. Art experiences to the public. Due April 1. (Could pair with the T Mobile Grant, or the Jackson County Community Foundation or PACF grant to cover the \$10k match. Due March 15 or Sept 15.)
 - ii. Other Grants: T Mobile for \$50k due March 31! They will fund projects that foster local connections, like technology upgrades, outdoor spaces, the arts, and community centers.

iii. Youth Engagement Through Public Art 25% match up to \$5k; support for visual two- and three-dimensional public art projects that engage local youth in the planning and/or implementation of the project. Projects must be in a public place. Due April 1 or Oct 1. d. Redesign of the business directory

CONCLUSION:

Next meeting will be April 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the 3rd Floor Conference Room Ravenswood City Building.

Motion to adjourn was made by Melanie Mosser. Motion seconded by Martin Unrue. Motion unanimously approved.

Meetings respectfully submitted by Dee Scritchfield