



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FREEPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION & MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021 AT 5:00PM
311 NAT HICKEY LANE, FREEPORT, TX 77541**

Chairperson:

Sandra Barbree

Board Members:

Nat Hickey
Carolyn Weatherly
David McGinty
Margaret McMahan
James McDonald
Amanda Petty

Vice Chairperson:

Brenda George

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairperson Brenda George called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Members Present: Brenda George
Nat Hickey
Margaret McMahan
James McDonald
Amanda Petty

Members Not Present: Sandra Barbree
Carolyn Weatherly
David McGinty

Staff Present: Tim Kelty, City Manager
LeAnn Strahan, Destinations Director
Wade Dillon, Museum Coordinator
Tammy Bell, Administrative Secretary
Courtland Holman, Economic Development Director

Guests Present: Gina Aguirre-Adams – Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Cara Lowrimore, TMSP Assistant State Coordinator
Patti Worfe, Executive Vice President, The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. George opened the meeting with prayer; Ms. McMahan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements by Board Members and/or Staff.

1. Meeting with Cara Lowrimore, TMSP Assistant State Coordinator via Zoom

The Board, City staff and guests were joined for an informal presentation regarding the Texas Main Street Program and the application process for re-certification into the program. Ms. Lowrimore outlined the National Main Street Four Point Approach of organization, economic vitality, design, and promotion. She explained the mission of the TMSP is to provide technical expertise, resources, and support for TMS communities, and they strive to provide highly effective, individualized services to their 88 designated cities in the program to help them reach their revitalization and preservation goals. Ms. Lowrimore answered questions from the panel of attendees, particularly outlining areas of the 2021 application that need attention going forward. Alliance Executive Vice President Patti Worfe also addressed the panel explaining the benefits that our community could expect from the program. Discussion ensued on the importance of engaging young volunteers in this process and having them ‘buy in to the vision’.

2. Fort Velasco Exhibit/Event (Strahan, Dillon)

A. Event Schedule

Mr. Dillon briefly discussed the tentative schedule of events for Fort Velasco Day to commemorate the 189th anniversary of the battle of Fort Velasco. He anticipates 40 or more re-enactors from all over the state to join us for live demonstrations, showing guests what it was like to live in the 1830s.

B. Volunteer/ Staff Schedule

Ms. Strahan expressed the need for volunteers for Fort Velasco Day and gave an update about the approved road closures. Mr. Hickey expresses the need for a downtown event center.

C. Living Historian Dinner

Ms. Strahan updated the board on food for the volunteers. Ms. Barbree volunteered to make breakfast tacos and make ice chest potatoes for the dinner. Mr. McDonald offered to cook brisket and bring beans, pickles, onions, and jalapenos. The food will be set up in the temp hall following the day’s events.

BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION:

3. Consideration and possible action to approve meeting minutes from May 27, 2021.

With a motion by Ms. McMahan and a second by Mr. McDonald, the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the meeting held on May 27, 2021.

WORK SESSION:

4. New Special Events

A. Downtown Monthly Events

i. Market Days

Mrs. Petty discussed that when she lived in Ft. Worth, several surrounding cities would have a market each weekend. Ms. Strahan suggested the formation of a sub-committee to plan Market Days. With several members absent, this item was tabled until the next scheduled meeting.

ii. Paint/Craft & Sip Series - Tabled

5. September - Mental Health Month

Mrs. George explained her idea for a Mental Health Awareness Day. This day will be designed for mental health at the Museum. Workshops will be available to be mental health certified. Mrs. George will need to coordinate with Mr. Dillon to verify there are no scheduling conflicts. Mrs. Petty clarified that May is actually Mental Health Month and September is Suicide Awareness month; Mrs. George concurred.

6. Vision Main Street – June 25, 2021

Ms. Strahan reported that the scheduled event includes live music, food catered by Roc, and Patti Worfe, Executive Vice President of the Alliance will be our guest speaker. Board members discussed additional guests to include in the invitation list.

ADJOURNMENT:

7. Adjourn.

With a motion by Ms. McMahan and a second by Mr. McDonald, the board unanimously approved to adjourn at 6:50pm.