



## Meeting Details

**Subject:** Joliet City Center Partnership Board Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, August 14, 2025

**Time:** 8:07 AM

**Participants** Elaine Bottomley, Monica Cicimov, Christa Desiderio, Amber Duffy, Tiffany Johnson, Brian Kincaid, Paulina Martinez, Mike Paone, Ron Romero, Ann Sylvester, Howard Wright

**Did not attend:** Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, Tim Brophy, Mayor Terry D’Arcy, Dave DiLorenzo, Bryan Kopman, Doug Pryor, Diana Viveros, Wade Welsh

**Call-in:** Michele Arana, Susy Herta, Bryce Jordan, Cornell Lurry, Megan Millen, Greg Peerbolte

**Staff Members:** Emmanuel Lopez, Vicki Sanchez

**Guests:**

**Meeting Handouts:** August 2025 Board of Directors Agenda; June 2025 Minutes & Financial Reports; Kidz Fest Presentation; Grant Application- Home for Holidays; Holiday Planters Quotes; Yo Amo Joliet

## Meeting Notes

- I. Call to Order**
  - i. Monica Cicimov called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes**
  - i. **BOARD ACTION:** Motion to approve the June 12, 2025 Minutes as presented by Monica Cicimov.
    - i. Motion to approve by Romero; seconded by Wirght  
Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Approval of Financials**
  - i. June 2025 draft financials were presented. Financials are currently in draft so no formal vote was taken.



**IV. Board Chair Report – Monica Cicimov**

- i. Welcome to new Executive Director Emmanuel Lopez and thank you to Vicki Sanchez for all the work she has done during the Director hiring process.
- ii. Update on attendance at the Bicentennial Bluffs neighborhood meeting where Cicimov and Johnson presented on CCP
- iii. Overview of success of Kidz Fest

**V. Marketing Committee – Tiffany Johnson**

- i. Restaurant week (July 19<sup>th</sup>-July 17<sup>th</sup>) was successful
- ii. Surveyed attendees at Kidz Fest about Downtown Joliet. 200 people completed the survey, results are in the Kidz Fest Presentation
- iii. Grant applications:
  - a. Rialto Square Theater Home for the Holidays Marketing Committee recommended funding \$500 towards this event.
    - i. **BOARD ACTION:** Motion to approve \$500 to the Rialto Square Theater for Home for the Holidays as presented by Tiffany Johnson. Motion to approve by Johnson; seconded by Paone. Motion carried unanimously
- ii. Overview of upcoming events

**VI. Economic Development Committee – Mike Paone**

- i. Continuing to pay out previously awarded grants
- ii. Thank you to Vicki for all the work and partnership!
- iii. Have met with 4 potential new businesses
- iv. Will be starting an Economic Development review to ensure that all materials and information are up to date and easily understandable

**VII. Beautification Committee – Megan Millen**

- i. **BOARD ACTION:** Motion to approve the lowest cost quote for Holiday Planters for \$5,433.82 as presented by Megan Millen.
  - i. Motion to approve by Peerbolt; seconded by Duffy. Arana abstained, Motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. Owners & Managers Association Chair Report – Megan Millen**

- i. August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting at Joliet Slammers was a success
- ii. Next Meeting will be in October. Any ideas for speakers and location would be appreciated

**IX. Staff Report – Emmanuel Lopez**



- i. Emmanuel shared that he is excited to be here and appreciated of the welcome and opportunity.
- ii. Vicki did a great job with Kidz fest
- iii. Thank you to Emily the intern for her work through the summer
- iv. Emmanuel will be booking meetings to touch base with everyone to see what vision everyone has for Downtown.
- v. Shared excitement about the dunk tank at New Orleans North on Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>. (Emmanuel, Christa and Amber will be taking shifts in the dunk tank).
- vi. Starting to look at the website to assess and make improvements to increase user friendliness
- vii. Getting quotes for technology- laptop and cell phones. Once these are purchased business cards will be printed.

**X. City Report – Christa Desiderio, Paulina Martinez, Ann Sylvester**

- i. General construction updates- for most up to date information visit [Joliet.gov/downtown](http://Joliet.gov/downtown)
- ii. Parking updates:
  - i. 2 hour free parking will begin on September 1<sup>st</sup> and the City has a communications plan so residents are aware
  - ii. Do not park on Chicago Street during the construction
- iii. If having events CERT team has capabilities to volunteer. Contact Christa if additional information or a contact is needed for this
- iv. No additional updates on Ruby & Cass Bridges, additional information is being requested from IDOT
- v. FY25 Continuity Grants only has one application so far
- vi. Paulina is going to be discussing sidewalk café permits with local businesses
- vii. The economic development team has an Instagram (@cityofjoliet\_econdev) and a LinkedIn page (City of Joliet Economic Development) give both a follow!
- viii. Ann Sylvester introduced herself and shared her appreciation for the warm welcome. She is setting up meetings and shared her priorities of City Square, Route 66 & Bicentennial Park

**XI. Other Announcements**

- i. Cicimov thanked Paone and Desiderio for their support and time during the Executive Director hiring process

**XII. Adjourn**

- i. Motion to adjourn by Paone; Seconded by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously
- ii. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Elaine Bottomley, Acting Secretary