

## Joliet City Center Partnership

**Board of Directors**  
**March 10, 2022**  
**8:00 a.m. – CCP Office**

### Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:06 a.m.

**1. Rod introduced Vicki Sanchez as the new Marketing & Events Manager.**

**2. Approval of February Minutes**

- Megan Millen motioned to approve.
- Diane Harris seconded.
- All Aye – Motion approved.

**3. Approval of February Financials**

- Jen Howard motioned to approve.
- Jim Roolf seconded.
- All Aye – Motion approved.

**4. Committee Chair Reports**

- Marketing
  - Monica stated that we did a SWOT analysis led by Vicki Sanchez. Priscilla stated this will be used as a launching point for our marketing plan. Rod asked that we email out the SWOT analysis.
  - Monica presented a \$2,000 request for Star Wars Day. Funding will be used for water, supplies and event space. Monica Cicimov made a motion to approve the request. Dave DiLorenzo seconded. Megan Millen abstained. All aye-motion approved.
- OMA
  - Dave stated our next meeting will be April 7th 3:00 p.m. at C&C Vision. Greg Ruddy, City of Joliet Public Works Director, will be the guest speaker and speak about Chicago Street Corridor improvements.
- Beautification Committee
  - Megan presented that we are adding planters on Cass Street east of the viaduct. She also stated that we are looking at a vinyl wrap on the garage deck on Chicago Street. Megan presented several goals for the committee this year including paving the alley between Rialto and Rialto 2 and organizing a community clean-up day.
  - Priscilla and Megan met to look at plaza area and potentially add more lighting.

**5. Chair Report**

- Rod stated that we worked with Bryan Kopman to make changes to the Bylaws and Terms. If there are no questions, the board needs to adopt the bylaws. Mayor

Name	Present	Absent
Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant		X
Susan Bornhofen		X
Mike Brick	X	
Monica Cicimov	X	
Valerie Devine	X	
David DiLorenzo	X	
Doug Pryor (guest)	X	
Diane Harris	X	
Jen Howard	X	
Bryan Kopman	X	
Megan Millen	X	
Sue Moore		X
Mayor Bob O'Dekirk	X	
Jim Roolf	X	
Dan Stevenson		X
Rod Tonelli (Chair)	X	
Denise Winfrey		X
Garland Mays (on behalf of JBT)		X
Priscilla Cordero (Director)	X	
Katie Smith (guest)	X	
Eva-Marie Tropper (guest)		X
Vicki Sanchez (M&E Manager)	X	

O'Dekirk made a motion to approve the amended bylaws. Diane Harris seconded. All aye-motion approved.

- Rod stated that Doug Pryor is now President and CEO of Will County CED. Megan Millen made a motion to approve Doug to the board, Jim Roolf seconded. All aye-motion approved. Rod stated that Doug has a vision and passion for downtown and is glad to have him on board.

## **6. City Report**

- Katie Smith reported on the following:
  - Katie stated that she is excited for the opportunity with the Loughran Building and Stadium Club.
  - Met with the Mike Patel of Posh. They are looking to purchase 71 N. Ottawa right next to the hotel. Rod stated that he met with Mike and the concept has been scaled back. They will no longer do a Marriott Springhill Suites, but will instead do a boutique hotel which allows more flexibility. They are still working on funding.
  - Chicago Street is still in Phase I which takes about 18 months. They hope to hear back from the Main Street grant in April.
  - Working on where funding for sidewalk replacement will come from.
  - Bridges - Cass may be closed April-June, McDonough would be close late June to late August. Ruby St. closed late October to late December. Mayor stated Cass will remain one way because additional work is needed on the bridge.
  - Rod stated that the Joint Review Board meeting will be scheduled sometime this summer to extend TIF another 12 years.
  - Mayor asked whether the Museum is working with the restaurants on some type of dining pass. Mike Brick stated that they are working on maps with QR codes to point people to downtown restaurants.
  - Jen Howard asked whether we are working with restaurants to get them to open for lunch. Priscilla stated that Vicki and she are working on it. Relationships with restaurants need to be developed in order to get that done.
  - Rod thanked the Mayor for his presentation at the Chamber luncheon and highlighting downtown and the businesses that have opened in the past year.

## **7. Staff Report**

- Priscilla stated that Palma's Latin Food is opened where Chevere was located. They requested a Small Business Assistance Grant for signage and were approved by staff. Priscilla has reached out to John Ferak to do a follow up on their opening.
- Priscilla thanked Doug for the opportunity to present at the CED's municipal training event. Priscilla presented to over 30 attendees on the CCP's grant program and the Mayor of Peotone reached out asking for more info after the event.
- Staff and several others toured the Loughran Building and Stadium Club. Rod provided further details on the status of the properties. He reminded everyone that Cut 158 is moving down the street and will keep his current location and do an Italian concept.
- Priscilla visited Downtown Morris to see what they are doing well and will continue to look at other downtowns with the goal of bringing back ideas and best practices for our downtown.
- The "Starting a Business in Downtown Joliet" seminar is scheduled for today and we have 35 people registered. Rod requested that we gather information on the type of

businesses people are looking to start. Priscilla stated that this will be a quarterly event. The seminar will also be repeated in Spanish at the end of April with the Latino Economic Development Association.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:43 a.m.**

- Diane Harris motioned to adjourn.
- Jim Roolf seconded.
- All Aye – Motion approved.