Regular Board Meeting Minutes
OTC Board Room
12:00

May 18, 2026 OTC

Call to Order: 12:03 by Terri McClung, President

Attendees: Kester Dingus, Wanda Crawford, Terri McClung, Patsy Snead, Lisa Akers,Afton Griffin,Lisa Worley,Susan Crowder,Gary Whitmer, Tony O`Brien , Lisa Sponaugle and Tyler Sizemore

Absent: Josh Taylor, Jonathan Calloway, Christine Hodges

Guests: Doug Houtz and Michelle Cook

A motion was made to approve the Monthly Meeting Agenda by Lisa Sponaugle. Second by Gary Whitmer. All in favor: Yes

A motion was made to approve the Previous Meeting Minutes by Lisa Worley. Second by Afton Griffin . All in favor: Yes

Consent Agenda Items: Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented by Lisa Worley. Second by Gary Whitmer. All in favor: Yes

Executive Director:

Kester gave a warm welcome to our summer intern Peyton Colvin as she met the Board Members and started to work today.
On May 21, WDBJ 7 will be broadcasting live at Alleghany Outdoors. Josh Tayor and Kester Dingus will be speaking on the show at 4PM
The Covington sign shipped on May 14th. And we will be meeting with city officials on Wednesday to decide on the location for the signs.
Kester, had spoken with the rep and owner of the Proxi Platform at the Main Street Now Conference, this mapping tool could be shared with the Chamber and split the cost 50/50 which would make it cost less than 600.00,including Professional Consultation services, electronic mapping, email and texting functions as well as giving us all the info on events.
Motion to purchase the Proxi Platform and share the cost and usage with the Chamber was made by Afton Griffin. Second by: Gary Whitmer. All in favor: Yes
Kester has the sign-up sheet for the Lumberjack Games, please pick your dates.
The first game is May 30th. We have square, but will need a handheld in order to run the concessions and the beer tent,
Motion to purchase a handheld square in the amount of $400.00 was made by Lisa Worley. Second, Gary Whitmer. All in Favor: Ye

Partner/Ex-Offico Updates

Small Business Coordinator
Terri added to her written consent agenda
"Just a friendly reminder that Virginia Main Street meetings, trainings,
And related communications are intended for Main Street
Organizations and DHCD staff. Some of the information shared is
Organization-specific or part of internal program discussions, so we
Should be mindful about distributing materials or details outside of
Those groups unless permission has been given. Thank you all for
Helping maintain that professional courtesy and confidentiality."
It was stressed at this meeting that achievable rent is so very important to these small businesses. Those attending were split into 3 groups with questions to ask small business and feedback will be shared with all participants.
She also brought to everyone's attention that there is a lot of trash talk on social media and asked everyone not to feed into it. A lot of it stems around her being President of OTC and her position with the city, having checked with MSA, it is not a conflict of interest.
Barnwood Blessing has announced they are closing, we are sorry to see it go and wish Lori the very best. We have 7 new businesses on the horizon. State Farm has relocated out of the OTC District and that location has been rented to an Adult Mental Health Counseling Service. Mountain Health and Wellness will be opening within the next 2 weeks at the corner of Court and Mid City Mall .
Tony almost has his building complete and will offer a store front on Main Street and one on Court Street, it will also provide 2 apartments on the upper level one of which he will occupy and the other will be rental property.
Terri also has a family that is looking for a space to put a Bakery and a Salon Boutique.
She also shared a printout of an idea to clean up the space between Wright`s building on Main street and the mid-city mall parking lot. We still need a date for clean-up day.

- **Chamber of Commerce:**
  No additional update
  - 5/20 5:30-7:00 Business Appreciation MGCC
  - 6/13 VA 250
  - 6/22 Jackson River Scenic Trail Marathon

- **Parks and Rec**
  City Pool to open Saturday 5/25
- 6-11/13 VA 250 Carnival

- **AHEDC**
- Tyler Sizemore reported, he had given 15 to 20 mim. Presentation at AHS and would be

doing the same tomorrow at 7PM at the Credit Union

- **Mayor–** No Update

- **4-H Extension/Farmers Market**

- 6/27 Bloomfest
- 7/25 Christmas in July
- 8/8 Kids Derby in conjunction with Streetscene
- 9/19 Customer Appreciation
- 10/24 Fall Fest
- 11/28 and 12/15 Holiday Markets
- August plan on Thursday evenings for produce and plants
- Board Members Doug Houtz and Michelle Cook advised that on Saturdays when a special promotion is held hours will be extended until 1PM. Michelle reported that there were over 500 visitors on Saturday.

Old Business - None

New Business:
Motion to allow $1000.00 for an Accreditation Celebration, at the Hotel Collins Greenspace on June 2 from 5:30 to 7pm, by Lisa Sponaugle, Second by Lisa Akers. All in favor. Yes

A motion to host a Christmas in July event on June 24, from 6:00 to 9:00 with an estimated cost of $2,500. was made by Lisa Worley. Second by Gary Whitmer. All in favor. Yes

Next OTC meeting June 29th.. 12 Noon - OTC Board Room

Motion to adjourn at 1:22 PM made by : Lisa Worley Second by: Afton Griffin **All in Favor? yes**