



## Rockwall Main Street Advisory Board Meeting Minutes Council Chamber Conference Room/City Hall – 385 South Goliad, Rockwall Tuesday, April 19, 2022 - 5:00 P.M.

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Board members present: Geoffrey Lyons, Jeremy Standifer, Eva Cannon, Stacy Fuqua, Gary Cannavo

Absent: - Jenni Hoffman

Staff present: Bethany Browning, Main Street Manager

Guest: Kevin Lefere

Council Liaison: Trace Johannesen

### 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Jeremy called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM.

### 2. OPEN FORUM

There were no public comments and the forum closed at 5:06 PM.

### 3. APPOINTMENT ITEMS

#### A. Appointment with Kevin Lefere, Owner of Zanata, to hear his concerns regarding parking in the downtown area.

Kevin opened the discussion with his concerns regarding parking needs in the downtown district. He pointed out specifically the amount of retail, restaurants, services and medical square footage far exceeds available parking opportunities. He asked if the City might consider adding parking. The board discussed other cities with parking garages, stating there was research that could be conducted to justify the costs/needs. Waxahachie, Georgetown and McKinney were used as examples of downtowns with parking garages. The Main Street Manager stated she would begin researching those cities and speaking to their downtown managers to gather additional information for the board's consideration. Is a parking study needed? No one really had the answer but felt it was also worth considering. At the end of the discussion it was agreed upon by all, there is a need and it's worth exploring regardless of outcome.

### 4. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. **Review and act on the February 15, 2022 meeting minutes:** Jeremy made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Gary seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

#### B. **Review and act on a façade grant application for Wren + Willow, 114 East Rusk Street.**

Ms. Browning reviewed the façade grant application with board members. Wren + Willow will be moving into the former Texas Traditions location and will be painting the front and rear exteriors and installing new awning fabric. She is asking for \$1,000.00 matching grant. She plans to start work in May. Jeremy made a motion to approve the façade grant request as presented; Eva seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

#### C. **Discuss next steps for pedestrian crossing safety at North Fannin and updates on public music options in the downtown area and take any necessary action.**

There was a brief discussion about the need for pedestrian crossings on SH66/North and South Fannin Street, as there are many pedestrians crossing the thoroughfare from the neighboring historic district or public parking lots. The major challenge is that the street is not a City-maintained/owned roadway, it belongs to TXDOT. The board discussed the possibility of signage and lighting as alternatives to a designated crosswalk.

- D. **Updates from board members and May agenda items. Updates from the board members and March agenda items:** Jeremy briefed the group on progress related to the walking tour. Ms. Browning shared plans for Founders Day and Opening Weekend of FM and SJPMS.

**5. MAIN STREET MANAGER'S REPORT**

Main Street District Activity: Fable & Fire – Opening Soon - 116 E. Rusk; New Construction of Office/Professional Building – Coming Soon – 407 W. Washington; Texas Traditions Closing – New retail tenant to take over the space; The Fatted Calf Closed – Several prospects have toured the property

Project Status Report/Follow Ups: Bronze Statue, Discovery to be unveiled summer 2022. An additional table and 14 chairs were ordered for San Jacinto Plaza – the new total will be 15 tables and 50 chairs

2022 Upcoming Events:

San Jacinto Music – May 6;

Farmers Market – May 7 – Vendors stay until 2PM;

Founders Day – May 21 – Butterfly Reveal, Wine Stroll, Music in the Plaza

**6. ADJOURN**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15PM. Minutes prepared by Bethany Browning, Main Street Manager.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD, CITY OF ROCKWALL, TEXAS, THIS 17 DAY OF MAY 2022.**

**MAIN STREET ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRMAN: JEREMY STANDIFER**