



City of Presque Isle, Maine

Downtown Revitalization Committee

Minutes

University of Maine Presque Isle – Alumni Room
October 11, 2023 @ 4:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Deborah Roark (Vice Chair), Floyd Rockholt (Treasurer), Rod Cameron, Shawn Cunningham (via zoom), Danielle Cyr, Dennis Koch, & Matt McGinley

Committee Members Absent: Christy Daggett (Chair), Mike Chasse (City Councilor) & Jacob Shaw (City Councilor)

Others Present: Galen Weibley, City Liaison; Kelly Cruz, Hana Boucher

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Roark called the meeting to order at 4:43 PM. Seven voting members were present.

2. Minutes Approval: Review and approve draft minutes from September 13, 2023.

A motion by *Floyd Rockholt*, second by *Rod Cameron* to approve the September 13, 2023 Downtown Revitalization Committee Minutes. **Vote – unanimous 7-0**

3. Treasurer’s Report: Review Treasurer’s report and financial activity for September

Floyd Rockholt presented the treasurer’s report to the members stating that there is \$30,203.31 in the PIDRC reserve account and \$7,080.00 in the General Fund remaining. Only one expense of \$100 was reported for the last promotion of the last summer concert. There was consensus that only outstanding expenses are from the Fire Company for flowers, banner installations for winter banners, and domain renewal.

A motion by *Rod Cameron*, second by *Danielle Cyr* to approve the Downtown Revitalization Committee September Treasurer’s Report. **Vote – unanimous 7-0**

4. Citizen Comments

Hana Boucher with Ignite Presque Isle shared with the group that Ignite Presque Isle will be hosting a murder mystery dinner event on October 27th and 28th at the Northeastland Hotel Red Room. The theme is the Great Gatsby Speakeasy complete with pass code to get inside with Presque Isle Community Actors playing roles in the performance. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at the hotel or on their website. All proceeds will benefit the Presque Isle Community Actors group and Ignite Presque Isle.

5. New Business

a) Officers for 2024

Vice Chair Roark agreed to help keep the meetings running in absence of a Chair until officers are finalized before the reorganization meeting. Membership is tasked with selecting a Chair and Vice-Chair for 2024. *Floyd Rockholt* agreed to remain as Treasurer for 2024 and *Galen Weibley* can serve as Secretary to offer continuity of record for board business if there are no volunteers. Members should submit their interest to Mr. Weibley before the reorganization meeting in December.

b) Subcommittee Reorganization

The committee members discussed a desire to reenergize interest and work of the PIDRC by resurrecting the subcommittees. This will serve two-fold in breaking discussions to more focused conversations by a smaller group and may attract interest of downtown merchants or other persons who are passionate about a select topic. The members discussed which area they would like to serve the standing subcommittees. Below is a list of the volunteers by subcommittee:

Beautification

Matt McGinley

Rod Cameron

Kelly Cruz

Promotions (Concerts)

Shawn Cunningham

CJ Cunningham

Danielle Cyr

Dennis Koch

Economic Development/Organization

Floyd Rockholt

Galen Weibley

Seasonal Banner Program

Rod Cameron

Debbie Roark

c) Tasks Update

Mr. McGinley offered an update from his research on downtown Christmas lights for the light posts. The committee agreed to utilize the funds before the end of the year where excess funds will be rolled to the General Fund and be lost.

A motion by *Danielle Cyr*, seconded by *Rod Cameron* to approve spending not to exceed \$3,500.00 for decorative Christmas lights in the downtown street poles. With design and style approved by the subcommittee. **Vote – unanimous 6-0.**

(Tasks Update Cont.)

Vice-Chair Roark inquired the status of ordering flowers for next year. Mr. Weibley shared that Patty LeBlanc has in the past placed the order for bubble gum pink petunias with MSAD # 1 Farm for the following year. **Vice-Chair Roark** mentioned she will reach out to see if an order has been placed.

The Downtown Banner Program and a bucket truck was discussed at length. It was agreed that the committee needs to research a cost and time effective alternative of relying on LaJoie Electric. **Mr. McGinley** and **Mr. Cameron** said they would research alternatives to propose to the group or to see if a boom truck is available in the area to purchase.

6. Department Report

Mr. Weibley briefed the committee regarding the importance of the downtown redesign discussions happening tonight at 6 P.M. in the multi-purpose room at UMPI as it relates to improving pedestrian safety, walkability and multiuse trails. Mr. Weibley stressed the importance of being open and honest with thoughts on the proposed concepts as it will aid in the final draft to the City Council. Once the final plan is approved though, the PIDRC and community needs to be united in promoting the final vision as it will demonstrate to federal stakeholders that there will be no roadblocks during design and construction.

7. Adjournment

A motion by **Danielle Cyr**, seconded by **Matt McGinley** to adjourn the PIDRC Meeting at 5:31 P.M. **Vote – unanimous 6-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Galen Weibley
Secretary Pro-Temp

Downtown Revitalization Committee Members
Christy Daggett (Chair), Deborah Roark (Vice-Chair), Floyd Rockholt (Treasurer),
Rod Cameron, Shawn Cunningham, Danielle Cyr, Dennis Koch,
Mike Chasse (City Councilor), & Jacob Shaw (City Councilor)