

Economic Development Commission (EDC)
Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2022

Present: Chairwoman Terri Packard, Natoma Vargason, Dana Healy, Tyler Hornbecker, Ron Humbel, Ray Hanson, Diana Palmer, Glorianne Manley, Mayor Howard Long, Town Manager Paul Mantello

Guests: Dan Murphy, Eric Kitchen

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am by Terri Packard

Minutes from the January 5th, 2022 meeting were reviewed – Motion by Natoma Vargason to approve the minutes; second by Dana Healy; minutes approved by all.

Treasurer's Report: Ron Humbel provided the report – Motion by Natoma Vargason to approve; second by Dana Healy; approved by all.

Presentation: Eric Kitchen visited all commissions, and he is compiling a list. The two targets for Boonsboro are Reserve for Reservoir; it has a leak and sink holes developing around the reservoir and Lead Pipe Replacement (EPA). He is asking for a word document with a list of things Boonsboro needs. Some suggestions are parking needs, assisting property owners with upkeep of older buildings, signage, and lighting. Eric said he knows what the EDC needs.

Mayor Howard Long had a good meeting with Senators. It looks good for Boonsboro's 3 projects. They are very interested in intersection.

Old Business:

Beautification Project: Paul Mantello talked about a tree giveaway program to replace trees on Main Street.

Networking Breakfast: March speaker will be a representative from Goodwill. Natoma will reach out for May Meeting, possibly Marianne Burke from the Washington County Arts Council. Natoma suggested a Facetime with business owners for the new Business Alliance group.

Boonsboro Advertising: Natoma Vargason talked about a Calendar Listing, Banners for Spring Jubilee, Message Boards in Town – Shafer Park, Trolley Museum and Post Office. It was mentioned that we need more pictures of Main St. that actually show Main St. Natoma Vargason and Dan Murphy gave some descriptions for the message boards, cost \$1300. Dana suggested a parking sign idea with a Vintage Design. We need Park Board and Council approval to place message board. Motion to proceed with message board project was given by Vargason, Tyler Hornbecker seconded the motion. There would be one sign tree installed at Park Drive and Alley – all were in favor. Natoma Vargason suggested a motion to move Lamp Post – Paul Mantello said we must do our due diligence and get 3 competitive bids for items over \$1000. The motion was tabled until next meeting. Dan Murphy will get pricing together for us. Town Brochure on hold; waiting on Town Alliance.

Spring Jubilee – Natoma gave an update on Spring Jubilee – she wants two banners at the two corners of Main Street. Suggested that we print the banners without a date – Dan had a suggestion to add a board to be able to change date from year to year. Motion was received by Natoma Vargason to get these two signs for Spring Jubilee; second received by Ron Humbel. The motion was changed to say that we would want to attach a small interchangeable sign to allow the date to be changed year to year. We then discussed a 6' or 9' Zoom Flex Outdoor Flag to say either “This Weekend or Today” – Vargason suggested we use the Teardrop Style in orange and blue (want to see a mock up) – Motion by Natoma Vargason; seconded by Dana Healy; approved by all.

Boonsboro Ribbon Cuttings & Recognition: today at 1:30 pm at Boonsboro Family Worship – they are opening a Food Service. May 3rd is opening day for the Farmers Market @ 4:00 p.m. Tyler did not have much of an update on his opening, he said things are moving along – TBD – nominated for Small Business person of the year, this event was being held at the Maryland Theater. He was doing to ask for a copy of the recording for his social media. There is a new Podiatrist in Boonsboro, not interested in a Ribbon Cutting – marketing people to get back with us. Cochran’s Anniversary; going to ask Marilee Kerns for detail; Dedication of new auditorium at Boonsboro High School at some point.

Terri shared pictures from JR Photos of Main Street and Devils Backbone. We would give photo credit to Jason Runnel and pay \$25 per file. Dana Healy moved to purchase 6 pictures from JR Photos, seconded by Diana Palmer, approved by all. Natoma suggested a hashtag that is unique to Boonsboro for posting on Social Media – this would allow us to collect images. Instagram account is Boonsboro 21713.

EDC Shirts: moving forward again, High Resolution Photo – Terri will email with options soon

Food Truck Festival: There will be Sponsorship Opportunities – need to work out these details and specifics. Natoma Vargason stated that 6 Vendors are returning, 2 vendors from 2021 have not confirmed and 5-6 more that are interested. It was decided that we would want a minimum of 12 food trucks and a maximum of 15. We have accepted Whistle Stop Sandwiches and Cannon Coffee. People will come for food and music. Natoma is confirming the vendors today, booking talent from 12 pm to 7 pm with a budget of \$3000. Natoma has a flyer with options for sponsoring the Bounce House (liability), Petty Zoo for Kids, Rock Walls, possible Reptile Person, Trucks and/or tractors on display from Ralph Henson. Ron is in charge of the Corn Hole, Ping Pong and Basketball – does not want to be too pricey, keep enrollment fees down. Pavilion #3 is reserved for Ping Pong. Howard Long did say that no one else can reserve anything in the park for this day.

Natoma Vargason moved to continue to use the Boonsboro Athletic Boosters to sell beer; seconded by Ron Humbel; approved by all. There was another suggestion by Diana to have a Lawnmower pulling contest, Nature Center on the Go.

Boonsboro Town Alliance: Spring Jubilee – we have more windows to paint, StoneWerks, Potomac Street Creamery and Diamond Electric, \$370 for music from 11 am to 3 pm, 3 Food Trucks, Museums will be open this day. Town Alliance Membership; we need to do face to face introduction. We have two different membership rates, Profit and Non-profit. Can we get \$1000 seed money from EDC? Can

we use school band and choir for entertainment? Motion was received to give \$500 from EDC to Boonsboro Town Alliance as seed money; seconded by Dana Healy; approved by all.

Rack Cards: Laura Oates gave us pricing on Rack Cards – 5000 for \$338, 10,000 for \$498 and design costs would be \$300. We should place these at Visitors Centers, Churches, Restaurants, Stores, etc.

New Business:

Howard said there would be a Reenactment by Russ Richards on March 24th or 25th

Terri Packard shared that the Vanish Brewery was approved

Ocean City – June 12th to 14th – Maryland Municipal League- Natoma gave our material to the Washington County Booth – we will look at next year.

Upcoming Events:

April 30th – Spring Jubilee

Minutes submitted by Marie Oyster, 04/21/2022