

Main Street ERC meeting
Thursday, May 30, 2019

7:10 pm James R., Abbie, John Andrew, Ellis

Agenda: review work plans for FY 2020

Overall, there was a suggestion that the layout be changed to emphasize the project title and remove the repeating goals and strategies from the top of each plan. The meeting was told that the Main Street board prefers the current layout.

These work plans were based on a survey of the ERC.

1) Downtown Available Property Tour

There was agreement on Tuesday, Oct. 8 as a date. Start at 10 am with light snacks and coffee with a brief talk by an accountant to discuss issues of cap. gains and taxes. Not publicized to the general public, but individual invitations to interested parties. Expenses for invitations, snacks, set up to be covered by \$250 each from Main Street and EDC.

2) Revolving Loan Program

Application will be made to MHDC for CITCs (Community Improvement Tax Credits) which can then be used to solicit donations from individuals to a revolving loan program available to downtown businesses administered by Main Street. Goal: \$5-10,000 for small loans in the \$500 - 1000 range. Discussion: to make the effort worthwhile it might be more efficient to set goals at higher amounts.

Add to tasks: Survey businesses for level of interest; organize a presentation for possible donors. Arrange all tasks in proper date sequence.

3) The Next Level Educational Speaker Series

Ask GBACC and EDC to partner and suggest topics by June 15. Set dates and places at June ERC meeting. The purchase of general use A-V equipment was questioned as being a Main Street expense not ERC. GBACC has a projector that could be used. Possible topic: estate planning.

4) Quarterly business Roundtables

Survey businesses by Aug. 1 for topics. Possible topics: small area Plan; impact of apt. project on downtown. Possible have roundtables on an ad hoc basis. Decide on topics, schedules at Aug 22 ERC meeting.

5) Pop Up shops

Black Friday through Dec 22 in Tom Jackson's storefronts. Jewelry and household items. Possible permanent occupants to come from popups. Work with local gov't to avoid oppressive fees from County permitting.

6) (Not a Work Plan) Downtown revit and preservation

Concern was expressed that the burned-out buildings #6-22 W. Potomac St. are to be razed and rebuilt rather than repaired. There was agreement that Main Street should write to the owner/developer and express the concern that the appearance of the buildings be preserved and inquire about plans for them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm