

KENDALLVILLE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES FROM APRIL 10th, 2019 MEETING

I. The April meeting was called to order by Ray Scott at 8:02 A.M.

The following members were present: Ray Scott, Ian Schowe, Lance Harman, Loren Allen, Brent Durbin, Brad Graden and Lynnette Leamon.

Others Present: Sheryl Hanes, Scott Derby and Steve Garbacz.

Absent: and Mayor SuzAnne Handshoe.

II. The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. Brad Graden made a motion to approve and Loren Allen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. The financials were reviewed from the March meeting. No comments or discussion on the financials. They stand approved as presented.

IV. Old Business

- A. Ray stated we are on a new path for the Streetscape Grant with a new grant administrator. Shannon McLeod will be writing and submitting our grant. She's putting together a list of things for us to do. Brad asked if we had set up any of the public meetings with the downtown merchants yet for their engagement in the project? Lynnette reported there was only one public hearing at City Council and there will be an informational meeting set up later. Ray said she'll keep us on our toes. Lynnette said We approved the \$2500 to pay her (as a private company) and she gets paid anyway, so we need to be ready and do our homework when she wants it. We're waiting patiently for her direction. There are just some pieces missing and she'll fill those in and make sure everything is there for this first round.

Lynnette said the next event for Experience the Heart of Kville is a Fairy Gnome and Troll festival on May 18th from 10-2. There are enough vendors participating to block off 2 blocks downtown. There will be characters walking around and lots of activities for the children to become a fairy, gnome or troll.

- B. Umbaugh – Lance walked into the meeting as we moved to this line item on the agenda. He stated all we need to do is invite the library and the school and go over what we do and the money we spend and what our plans are for this year. It doesn't have to be a special meeting. It could be this meeting, but it does need to be done sometime this year. We can invite all on Sheryl's list (overlapping taxing units) to come to the next meeting, it just an informational meeting. Ray said he would put that on the agenda for the next meeting.
- C. Fairview Blvd Project and bills. Scott Derby said that they are getting ready for this as one of their first projects. There were no bills to review at this time.
- D. Eastside signage – Lynnette brought some pictures of a few designs for the billboard on US6. (Across from the shopping center, near the end of Brian's Place and US6.) She shared them with the board members and got their feed back on the ideas. The consensus was the board liked the picture with the parklet, but we need to find some people sitting in it. Keep it simple. Focus on the now with a full close-up picture. We're changing! The EID is getting new

agreements with the property owners to allow people to cross their property to get to the easement to change out the billboard.

- E. Design work for the multi-use trail from Dowling St. to Allen Chapel. Scott did not have an update. He was not sure when he would hear from Next Level Trails. No bill submitted.
- F. Installation status of the new public parking signs. Scott did not have an update. The last time he spoke with them the ground was still frozen.

V. New Business

- A. Façade Grant Applications – There was one application Dated April 3rd, for Bruce Babbitt, DBA Cinema Associates, Inc. It is to replace gutters and downspouts on North Side of the Building. The total cost of the project is \$7,840 and the amount requested is \$3,920, Southwood Construction out of Fort Wayne was the lowest bid. Lance commented again that he would like the people who are applying for the façade grants to attend the meeting. Lance made a motion to approve the \$3920 for the gutterwork. Brad seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lynnette brought up some ideas and had discussion about what can the RDC do to help to turn around the empty buildings downtown Kendallville. There has been a large turnover in ownership of properties and she was concerned that we need to help this transition along and help to develop downtown Kendallville as fast as possible. Lance said he will have some conversation with Heidi at Umbaugh. She will reach out to other communities and also ask the Chambers if they have some incentives in their communities.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47am. The next meeting will be on May 8th, 2019 at 8:00 A.M.

Submitted by,
Lynnette Leamon
Secretary