

Abilene Downtown Association

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 3, 2009

The September 2009 meeting of the Abilene Downtown Association was called to order at 8:35 a.m. at Bogie's Downtown by ADA President Dennis Miller (Abilene Public Library).

Dennis called for a review of the minutes from the August meeting. Neal Hall (Bowtech for Health) motioned for acceptance; the motion was seconded by Christine Brockman (Connecting Caring Communities) and carried by a majority vote of the members present.

The Treasurer's Report was not presented.

Dennis introduced two new attendees to the meeting ...

Karen Stephan, from United Way.

Barry Arthur, a western artist, who has a new gallery on North 2nd Street

Dennis turned the floor over to Glen Dromgoole (Texas Star Trading Co.) who briefed attendees on the Sandwich Board project. Twenty signs and posters will be purchased; the Association is covering 2/3 of the cost; any member desiring these items – designed for use with Downtown DAYZ (DT DAYZ) and ArtWalk – can purchase them for \$20 each. The sandwich boards will be ready for use in time for the October DT DAYZ.

Dennis briefed that the City Sidewalks committee had its first meeting. Tom Rigsby (Capt Flynn Advertising) is heading up the committee, and will be asking Reliant Energy for a grant again this year to help fund advertising. There will be no Reindeer Run this year; an alternate idea is being discussed.

Dennis briefed that ArtWalk is Thursday, September 10; the theme is ArtWalk for Fitness.

Dennis gave an update on Downtown Dollars (DT\$\$); the Association sold them at DT DAYZ and ArtWalk, and, to date, 500 of the allocated 1,000 have been sold. Dennis asked for volunteers to help sell them at the next ArtWalk and DT DAYZ. Anyone interested in the 25 DT\$\$ for \$20 should contact Dennis.

Dennis opened a time of discussion and brainstorming for ways to bolster DT\$\$. Some of the suggestions made were ...

- Having more lunch venues
- Invite non-profits to sell hot dogs and hamburgers
- More music
- Distribute flyers to hotel (Wooten/Windsor) residents
- Spend \$10 or more in a downtown business; entered into a drawing; DT\$\$ is the prize

Dennis called for member announcements ...

Glen Dromgoole briefed the West Texas Book and Music Festival; Sept. 21-26. There will be concerts in Minter Park, and on Sept. 25, there will be a special concert at the Paramount.

Nathan Driskell (The Grace Museum) briefed that they have a new exhibit opening on Sept. 25.

Bill Minter (Abilene Preservation League) briefed that the APL Fall Home Tour would be on October 4 from 1 to 5 p.m. The theme this year is “Lofty Space in Historic Downtown Spaces;” several downtown-area residents have agreed to open their homes. APL needs help with visitors who may need assistance getting up and down stairs. They also need volunteers willing to serve as docents for the home tours.

Christine Brockman briefed that CCC will be doing a one-hour tour today (September 3) beginning at 4:30 p.m. They will be taking a bus around town to show people what CCC is doing.

Betty Hukill (Paramount Theater) briefed that the Tejas Story Tellers will be performing the weekend of September 18-20.

Dennis briefed that Jerry Harris was recently diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, and asked for everyone to keep Jerry in their thoughts and prayers.

Christine Brockman briefed that the Texas Alcoholics Anonymous conference is September 5 and 6 at the Civic Center.

Dennis adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m. The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at Bogie’s Downtown.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Carpenter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D".

Respectfully submitted by
Dan Carpenter, ADA Secretary