

Implementing Newton's Future

Newton Hometown Pride Committee

Thursday October 20, 2016, Noon-1:00

Newton Development Corporation Conference Room

Agenda

1. Call to Order— Chairperson Showalter
2. Consider approval of the September 8, 2016 meeting minutes
3. Confirmation of added and deleted committee members
4. Subcommittee reports
 - Downtown mural rehabilitation
 - First Avenue West railroad overpass
 - Wayfinding signage
 - Interchange 164 large-scale art
 - 30 Acre Park
 - Consider addition of DMACC greenspace subcommittee
5. Community project and activities status updates
 - *Note: we will be doing updates in a **lightening round** format, with a maximum of 30 seconds for each update*
6. Grant activities update
 - Prairie Meadows (\$5000) and Jasper Community Foundation (\$10,000) awards for Aurora Park bouldering course
7. Community Coach and committee member information
 - Keep Iowa Beautiful college scholarship program
 - Keep Iowa Beautiful school garden program
 - Mingo and Kellogg
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Next meeting: Thursday November 10, 2016; Noon-1:00 at the Newton Development Corp



Newton's Future/Hometown Pride Implementation Committee
September 8, 2016 Minutes

Present:	Absent:
Bruce Showalter, Chair	Sue Nolin
Graham Sullivan	Bernie Lammers
Zach Bey	Denice Fischer
Bob O'Brien	Don Poynter
Miranda Kulis	Brendan Lamont
Tanya Michener	Kari Van Zante
Amanda Price	Frank Liebl
Natalie Umsted	Mary Entz
Don Poynter	Mary Ann Nevins
Jeff Davidson	Jane Repp
Nathan Unsworth	Bryan Friedman
Kerry Soule	Jackie Boat
Erin Chambers	
Terri Ayres	
Annette West	
Robbie Robinson	

Meeting Started at 12:00 PM

Review of August 11, 2016 meeting minutes. Amanda Price motioned for approval of minutes. Second by Graham Sullivan. Minutes approved.

Bruce Showalter brought up a discussion topic on City Council appointments to this committee and expressed that it was timely to review committee members currently appointed to this committee. Natalie Umsted volunteered to reach out to Sue Nolin and Brendan Lamont to gauge continued interest in serving on the committee. Erin Chambers volunteers to reach out to Bernie Lammers and Jane Repp to gauge continued interest in serving on the committee. Natalie Umsted also agreed to review the list of organizations currently represented with Mayor Mike Hansen, who recommends the appointments to Implementing Newton's Future, to evaluate if there are any organizations that are not represented at Implementing Newton's Future that would be appropriate to include.

Bruce Showalter told the committee that he would be encouraging of someone else taking on the duties of chairing this committee at the start of the new year. If anyone is interested in learning more about what that would entail they may contact Bruce.

Jeff Davidson and Bruce Showalter led a discussion on the use of subcommittees for Implementing Newton's Future. Several of the projects that the committee has been working on are at a stage where subcommittee work may help to better define goals and help keep projects moving forward. Amanda Price said that she liked this idea because it will help give the committee a greater focus and more targeted goals. The committee agreed to set up subcommittees in the following areas: downtown mural rehabilitation, First Ave West railroad overpass, wayfinding signage, Interchange 164 large-scale art, and 30 Acre Park. The committee discussed trying to find other community members who may be interested in getting involved in these individual projects to also serve on these committees. The following individuals volunteered to serve on the five subcommittees:

- Downtown mural rehabilitation
 - Graham Sullivan
 - Terri Ayers
- First Avenue West railroad overpass
 - Erin Chambers
 - Amanda Price
 - Graham Sullivan
- Wayfinding signage
 - Erin Chambers
 - Annette West
 - Nathan Unsworth
 - Tanya Michener
- Interchange 164 large-scale art
 - Natalie Umsted
 - Amanda Price
 - Bruce Showalter
- 30 Acre Park
 - Kerry Soule
 - Don Poynter
 - Tanya Michener
 - Nathan Unsworth

The expectation of the subcommittees is to meet at least once between regularly scheduled Implementing Newton's Future meetings. As projects are completed, new projects that are in more of a developing stage will be added. Potential future subcommittee projects include the washing machine museum concept and the DMACC greenspace.

In order to promote horizontal communication throughout the community, Jeff Davidson suggested we begin doing a "Lightening Round" of updates in which each committee member is given 30 seconds to discuss projects, events, ideas, or other community business.

- Terri Ayers proposed the idea/need for a covered or shaded downtown event space.
- Bob O'Brien invited everyone to the Brenden O'Brien Memorial Blood Drive on Thursday, October 6. He also invited everyone to attend Thunder Nites bike night on Friday, September 9.
- Miranda Kulis announced that the Newton City Council voted to purchase the Hotel Maytag at Tuesday's City Council meeting in order to begin the stabilization of the building to prepare it for renovation.
- Tanya Michener invited the committee to mark their calendars for the Iowa Sculpture Festival which will be held November 5 and 6.
- Kerry Soule announced that Skiff has been working on several remodeling projects, and they will be planning an open house/tours of improvements in about 6-7 months.
- Amanda Price invited the committee to attend the first Unwind at 5 at Hunter Mansion on September 16. She invited the committee to mark their calendars for November 12th and 13th for the Chamber Holiday Open House. She also announced that the Chamber is currently looking

for floats for the Lighted Christmas Parade. She also invited everyone to attend Thanks with Franks.

- Graham Sullivan announced that Main Street is currently conducting a 50/50 raffle fundraiser. Additionally, Main Street will be having a 'Magnetic Main Street' raffle on September 22. Main Street is also currently in the midst of their three year pledge drive.
- Zach Bey said that there was a downtown church service on August 28 that was well attended and fun for the community.
- Nathan Unsworth announced that the Boulder Park is being rebid, and the park board is planning on working with a consultant to design an improved skate park.
- Annette West announced the Miss Iowa/Miss Teen Iowa will be back in Newton once again this year, and they are looking for volunteers. The event is Oct 8-9.
- Erin Chambers announced that work is starting on the Jewel Tea Court project near the hospital, that a few major D&D projects would soon be demolished, that City Council recently approved 4 additional projects for downtown micro-grants, and that on September 6, the Newton City Council approved the 2016 revision of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Robbie Robinson introduced himself to the committee and spoke a little about the work he has been doing in Newton. He is leading "Discover Hope" which is a faith based ministry focused on providing a support network for those struggling with substance abuse, providing a mentor program, and working to establish transitional housing.
- Don Poynter announced that the economic development subcommittee of Main Street was working on planning a tour for later this fall.
- Natalie Umsted invited everyone to recycle old appliances and electronics on Saturday, September 17. Drop off will be available at the corner of W 4th St N and N 2nd Ave W between 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hometown Rewards will assist with collection of items if you are unable to transport them. Contact Jackie Boat to schedule a pick-up.
- Bruce Showalter announced that he has accepted the position of director of the Newton Housing Development Corporation. He also reminded everyone about the details of Newton's \$10,000 Housing Initiative.

Update on Keep Iowa Beautiful business.

Mingo and Kellogg will be joining the Hometown Pride program in October 2016.

Colfax Hometown Pride is hosting a "Rock the Quarry" event on September 24.

Baxter Hometown Pride is hosting a "Fall into Fitness" event on September 17.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 13 at noon at the Newton Development Corporation board room.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
