



Main Street Design Committee

Minutes

June 16, 2022

8:00am

Members Present: Shanna Goldenstein, Connie Thurman, Jayme Chapin, Jennifer Penner, Shawn Davis, Bill Morris, Shane Scott

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rob Cooper, City Planner; Cody Sims, Assist. City Manager; Susie Geiger, Assistant to the City Manager

Members of the Public: None

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Jayme Chapin at 8:00am.

Discussion: The purpose and role of the Main Street Design Committee as well as the role of the ‘Go Augusta Design Committee’ and the redundancy of having both committees basically performing the same role and function with the same people serving on both Committees and the Main Street Design Committee should be abolished for the following reasons:

- Redundancy.
- Same members on both Committees.
- *Go Augusta Design Committee* has a greater involvement on a daily basis with the downtown business owners.

Cooper started by recapping the previous meeting discussion.

Sims expressed his agreement to abolish the Main Street Design Committee and suggested that Jayme bring this request to the next City Council meeting on July 5th.

Geiger spoke on the design guidelines and stated the guidelines are codified with the Augusta City Council.

Bill Morris says he believes the guidelines should remain codified. Cody Sims questioned Morris, “what is the purpose of the administrative or advice-giving role if they have no “teeth” for enforcement? Shawn spoke on behalf of the “enforcement” part of the Committee and stated the city is not enforcing the code regarding building disrepair and unsightly properties. Bill Morris and Shawn Davis said they would be in favor of the Committee having enforcement authority.

Jayme Chapin spoke about the 2003 Design Guideline booklet she sent out last week to all Committee members via email. She continued, saying GoAugusta needs to be proactive in getting the information out to new businesses and to forward the new businesses information to city staff for possible involvement.

Connie stated, just because the Committee is abolished doesn’t mean the codes and regulations don’t apply! Jayme asked the Committee, ‘what now is the new plan and process for the GoAugusta Design Board?’ Sims suggested to Jayme, the Board should create a detailed plan and demonstrate the process of how the new board will handle and process new design, new businesses, and enforcement of delinquent properties before to going before the July 5th City Council meeting. Sims believes having a detailed plan of operation,

authority, power, and activity to get the Councils approval. Sims also spoke concerning the importance of being consistent in applying the code. Cody asked what circa does the Committee enforce? Jayme said, it depends on the year the particular structure was built.

Adjourn:

Jayne moved to adjourn at 8:58AM; motion was seconded by Connie. Motion carried without opposition.

/s/ Rob Cooper

DRAFT