



**Super
Town of
Albion
Revitalization
Team**

www.albionstarteam.org

A member of OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network,
associated with Indiana Main Street

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes prepared and submitted by Gary Gatman. Attendees: Lori Gagen, Steve Hook, Mary Ann Troutner, Gary Gatman, Pattie Gatman, Everett Newman, Dawn Jones.

Call to Order

The Albion STAR Team meeting was called to order by President Lori Gagen at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes

March 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed. There were no questions or amendments. A motion was made to approve the minutes. There was a second and a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Ann (Treasurer) shared financial information with the team. The current bank balance was reported to be \$16,528.37. Recent expenses were shared as was a recent \$300 deposit from Albionopoly proceeds. It was also noted that a new sidewalk sign had been purchased. There was a motion to approve the financial statements as presented, there was a second, and the team voted unanimously to approve. Steve Hook also shared that he had two expenses from Albionopoly totaling \$28.12 that needed reimbursed. There a motion to approve this reimbursement. There was a second and a unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Volunteer Hours

Board members were reminded to continue keeping track of their volunteer hours. There was a discussion about using a QR code that would allow STAR team members to directly record their volunteer hours. The team felt this would a good approach to pursue.

Old Business

There were three discussions regarding old business. First, there had been discussions about serving as a fiscal agent for a grant to secure funding for the renovation of the large safe in the courthouse lobby. It was reported that the county was not going to pursue this grant and will seek funding through other avenues. Second, there was a follow up discussion regarding possible funding to support the library KIPS programs. Mary Ann did a quick overview of the KIPS program and there was a discussion about possible STAR support of the program including the distribution of event rack cards to families involved with the program. A motion was made to approve a \$250 distribution to the library for the KIPS program. There was a second and that was followed by a unanimous vote to approve the distribution. Third, there was a discussion about involving the Chain O Lakes correctional gardening crew to help with the planting and mulching of downtown flowers. Mary Ann will continue these discussions to assess their interest.

Sub-Committee Reports and Projects

Organization

- **Mission Statement Discussion:** There was a good discussion about the mission statement and everyone on the team felt good about it. The team also felt that our vision statement, which is future state, should focus on downtown as a gathering place for the community, a place where people choose to live, and a place that preserves and protects history and is proud of it. Overall, the vision statement should communicate the vision that the Albion downtown is really the heartbeat our community.
- **Preservation Ethic:** There was a good discussion about the importance of keeping a preservation ethic in everything that the STAR team does. This is core to the mission of the main street organization. More to come on this in future meetings.
- **Reports:** Form 990N has been completed. The STAR Team's business entity report for the Secretary of State is due in August. And the NP20R and Indiana Gateway E1 Reports are due in May. Steve is working on these reports and will let everyone know if he needs anything.

Project Design and Promotion

- **Pocket Park:** 5 whiskey barrels have been obtained to serve as planters in the pocket park. Hanging lights are also being purchased that would attach to the building adjacent to the park and suspend out over the park. The STAR Team will work with the town on hanging these lights since the town owns the building.
- **Downtown Mural:** There is still a plan to leave the mural in place until fall. Options for its replacement are being explored.
- **Albionopoly:** The application still needs to be submitted for the downtown road closure (the street south of the courthouse) since the game will be played in the street due to courthouse renovation work. A request will be made to the Town Council on May 14 for anyone that can attend. To date, 12 squares have been paid for by sponsors but Friday is the deadline for prior year sponsors to reup on their squares. Work is being done to get 6-8 teams involved in the game.
- **Fall Celebration:** The target date is September 14 and options for corn hole and vendors are being explored. Lori will check with Doug Ebey about coordinating a corn hole tournament. Since the gazebo is out of play due to courthouse renovations, other options will be explored to house this activity including the courthouse courtyard or an adjacent alley.

Economic Development

Pattie Gatman will be coordinating committee activities. Current discussion include a historical shopping tour in downtown Albion, a BBQ in the alley to serve as a networking event for businesses, and a sidewalk sale in July. These events will be coordinated with the Albion Chamber of Commerce who is also devoting resources to support these events.

Other Business

There is a planned Indiana Main Street training program in Auburn on May 2 if anyone can attend. There was a discussion about filling board vacancies and growing participation in STAR team board activities.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and was approved by unanimous consent. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45PM