



## **SACG Monthly Meeting**

**September 18, 2023**

**Library, lower level**

Welcome – President Deb Oldakowski welcomed 14 members at 6:00 PM. Mayor Lonnie was in attendance.

Mayor Lonnie agreed we can incorporate the new bridge ribbon cutting as part of our Sip & Shop event on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, he asked for a video which Jim Hidingier will produce. SACG agreed to fund \$500 for the video. Motion made by Tim Peters and seconded by Sue Herman. All Ayes.

Secretary Report – Jill Hidingier asked for a motion of the August minutes. Nancy Thorkildson motioned to accept them as written, seconded by Marlys Harms. All Ayes.

Treasurer Report – Jay Herman shared the following: \$0 income, \$2,566.15 expenses, and balances of \$14,116.91 regular checking, \$4,807.23 checking savings/memorial accounts, and 12 month CD has \$10,175.28. We have reached \$8500 in donations toward the mural restoration. Nancy Thorkildson motioned to approve the report, followed by Tim Peters. All Ayes.

Endowment Report – Jay Herman shared a balance of \$10,286.00 endowment funds.

SACG Expenditures – To date, SACG has spent over \$122,000 on projects in Shellsburg, and numerous volunteer hours dedicated to the cause.

### **Committee Reports**

**Economic Development** – Jill Hidingier provided a review of the different events and projects being undertaken. Sip & Shop will occur on November 16<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 PM. A committee has been formed to work on the Benton County Community Foundation Grant. Jim Hidingier, Nancy Thorkildson, Deb Oldakowski and Tim Peters volunteered to collaborate on this. Jessica Walker, our Community Development Specialist with Hometown Pride is going to write the grant.

We have learned the Iowa Economic Development Authority has chosen Shellsburg for a Downtown Walkaround this fall. Dates look to be October 17, 18, 19. Kate Robertson with Benton County Development is coordinating this with the City.

Gold Medal Flour Mural restoration project has received a donation from Roy's coming from the Pacesetter beer sales. Thank you so much Roy and Jean Fish! To date, we have achieved \$8500 in donations. Thanks to Jessica Walker for her help garnering publicity of the fundraising efforts. We had interviews with KCRG and KWVL during September. Jean Fish presented a bid for the mural refresh for two different options of application at our last meeting. Tim Peters motioned to approve Ed Callan's proposal and noted SACG would make up any shortfall of funding, if necessary. Tricia Sheldon seconded the motion. All Ayes.

We know the merchants would like audio speakers and music in the downtown area. Jim Hidingier spent some time looking at a possible way to make this happen but due to no wiring and Wi-fi not being available he decided it made sense asking businesses to use their own speakers.

We have an exciting event in the works with one of our merchants that would require purchasing a raffle license, tickets, and the sale of tickets. Jill Hidingier asked membership to vote for spending up to \$100.00 on these items. Tim Peters made a motion in favor and seconded by Meri Mott.

Lastly, Jill Hidingier is resigning as SACG's Chairperson of Economic Development at the end of 2023. Nancy Thorkildson and Tim Peters have generously volunteered to share the position beginning in January 2024.

**Park Committee** – Jim Hidingier shared plantings will soon be going in at the sign entrance to Memorial Park. The Horticulture Committee has identified, purchased, and will start planting soon.

**Membership Committee** – Nancy Thorkildson shared the work the committee has been engaged in for growing membership. A list of potential members has been created. There will be an Open House at Wildcat on Oc. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Beverages, appetizers, and a cash bar will be offered. Come learn about SACG and our history of designing, volunteering, and sponsoring community projects. A \$450 event budget was voted on with Phil Shaff making the motion and Tim Peters seconding. All Ayes.

### **Old Business**

**Benton County Community Foundation Grant** – Nancy Thorkildson talked more about our request for \$20,000 in grant funds. She reminded us it is best to show that SACG has funds available to go toward our project if awarded funding. Phil Shaff motioned for SACG to contribute up to \$5,000, and Marlys Harms seconded. All Ayes.

Bike Rack – Nancy Thorkildson has spoken with Pearl Street Social Club about placing a bike rack in front of the building once their tuckpointing is completed.

**New Business**

Nominations – Jim Hiding, and Tim Peters have volunteered to serve on SACG’s Board of Directors beginning in January of 2024. Jill Hiding has agreed to continue serving as Secretary, and Jay Herman has agreed to continue serving as Treasurer.

Adjourn – We adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Hiding