

**Minutes of Design Meeting of the Downtown Excelsior Partnership
January 19th, 2017, 4:00 pm., The Mug**

In Attendance – Rob Meadows, Mark Spohn, Martha Buckman, Marilyn Gerdes and Lyndsey Baxter

Downtown Lighting – The committee began the meeting by again discussing the downtown lighting project. Rob shared that he has spoken with Matt Nolker of Westlake Hardware and he would be willing to give us wholesale pricing on lights/lighting systems. Lyndsey shared that she has spoken with Ameren and that they only assist when power connections are coming from the pole, not from a building. That would require an “indoor electrician”. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to reach out to Gary Sanson for some guidance.

There was also discussion about possibly finding ways to connect power from the street lights. Mark Spohn will be reaching out to Chad Birdsong and Mayor Brad Eales to discuss this possibility. Upon determining the best avenue for power, Rob will begin researching potential light systems to use.

Lyndsey will be creating a block to block inventory of business and property owners so that they can share this project with our downtown businesses.

It was again discussed to complete this project in phases and Lyndsey stated she would like to see it all completed at once as many of the businesses on Thompson and side streets often feel “left out” and not included in downtown décor.

Façade Grants – Lyndsey shared that they still have approximately \$6,000 in the budget for façade grants in downtown. Through discussion to committee decided it would be appropriate to reach out to businesses they feel could benefit from the use of the façade grant. Specifically, in relation to business signage and paint work on the facades.

Photo Inventory – Lyndsey shared that she would like to see the committee complete and up to date photo inventory of our downtown properties. She shared that these photo inventories would be used to market available properties. It was decided that we would send out a request to current building and business owners and ask them to supply us with interior and exterior photos of their buildings. After receiving photos from them, the committee would divide the remaining list up and obtain pictures of the buildings they had not received.