

Forest City Outdoor Town Action Team
MINUTES

Thursday, June 6th, 2024 -----

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Katie Zefran called the Forest City Outdoor Town Action Team meeting to order at 6:02pm

ATTENDEES: Katie Zefran, Deb McNamara, Erin Debish, Chris DeGonzague, Susie Atcavage, Amy Bean, Bob Lesjack, Gus Fahey, Corey O'Brien. ABSENT: Juliann Doyle

MINUTES: Erin Debish made a motion to approve 5.2.24 Minutes; seconded by Susie Atcavage. All in favor 4-0. No opposition. Motion passed.

A. CENTER STREET PARK

Forest City Borough Council approved Woodland Design to begin the Park Project. Woodland Design is concerned with the integrity of the retaining wall under Delaware Street and will contact a structural engineer to survey the wall. Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2024 barring anything unforeseen.

B. ERIE STREET TO MAIN STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

Forest City Borough Council approved the application for Phase 2 of the CBD Grant. This grant will be applied for and administered by Bobbi Jo Turner of Susquehanna County. Phase 1 of this project has been approved by DCED. Letters for bid will be sent out asap. The scope of Phase 1 will entail paving Erie Street from the Trailhead up to Railroad Street with a striped pedestrian/bike lane. Due to the narrow curve in the road it does not allow for sidewalks. Phase 2 of this project will include sidewalks from Railroad Street to Main Street.

C. FOREST CITY SCULPTURE TRAIL

Forest City Borough has been awarded grant money for sculpture #2 which will be placed on the Erie Street Trailhead. The Forest City Area Historical Society was

integral in securing this grant from the Endless Mountains Heritage Region's mini grant program. FCOTAT and FCAHS will work together to create this sculpture with Scott Nichols. Scott is a local artist and is responsible for the work on the original sculpture on the Main Trailhead.

D. FACADE PROGRAM

Gus Fahey reported that this program is finished with 16 facades completed and 1 remaining to be finalized. This was a 2 year program.

E. MURAL PROGRAM

The latest mural slated for Frugal Living unfortunately did not get the funding that was hoped for. The building owners and artists changed the concept to something more economical. They will create window treatments of current residents doing old time chores for a "history forth" concept. Gus Fahey also reported that they are looking to do something bright and bold on the back of the Frugal Living building to be seen from the Erie Street Trailhead in hopes to draw trail users up to town.

F. JUNIOR BOARD

Katie Zefran will attend a FCR school board meeting towards the fall for approval.

G. CREATIVE COMMUNITIES GRANT

Forest City in conjunction with Carbondale did not receive the full amount of this grant which was 25,000 per year for 4 years. Gus Fahey did say that we did however receive 15,000 combined so Forest City will receive 7,500. The money from the Creative Communities grant is to be used for artist designed bike racks, benches, lighting, murals, etc. It can also be used for a cultural event. The majority of this money will be used for the murals set for Frugal Living.

H. BIKE RACKS:

Forest City Borough Council approved funding for 3 bike racks to be placed at Zazzera's Market, Elegante Pizzeria and Frugal Living. The racks are expected to arrive on Friday, June 7th.

NEW BUSINESS/PROJECTS:

Deb McNamara recommended that a press release be drafted telling of all the progress of the FCOTAT and Borough Council. Susie Atcavage volunteered to write it.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next FCOTAT meeting will be held on Thursday, July 11th, 2024 at 6pm at The Forest City Borough Building 2nd floor Council Chambers. Please note: the Borough Council meeting will be held on July 1st which is before the next FCOTAT meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Deb McNamara made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Susie Atcavage seconding. All in favor 4-0. Zero opposed. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

