

ReVive Virginia

March 2, 2017

Present: Rudy Harvey, Mike Stone, Joe Guertin, Nicki Johnson, Dave Tuttle, Caroyln Tuttle, Betsy Olivanti, Britt See, Jaimie Niski, Carolyn Dinneen, Dennis Yourczek, Dennis Jorgenson, Michele Larson, Paula Okland

- I. Call to order: 12:08pm
- II. Approval of Minutes: Motion to accept the January 26th meeting minutes by Nicki Johnson. Second by Betsy Olivanti . Approved.

III. New Attendees

After seeing several new comers to the group, Mike Stone asked that each member introduce themselves briefly. Mike then gave a brief description of the primary goal of ReVive Virginia, including the recent grant approval. Copies of the grant presentation were distributed. Betsy Olivanti mentioned that often downtown areas are becoming commercial business rather than retail. Dennis Yourczek mentioned the need for making the area *interesting* – the downtown area is no longer just competing with malls but competing with internet sales.

IV. 2017 Planning Sessions

- a) Board members were discussed and once again was made open for additional nominations. Dennis Jorgenson confirmed that he is interested in being a non-voting member for fear of contaminating opinions. He’s willing to be a liaison if necessary as well. Carolyn Tuttle and Dennis Yourczek stepped up to accommodate the odd number of board seats required. Betsy Olivanti made a motion to nominate the 11-board member. Second by Nicki Johnson. Approved. Terri to email notice to board members identifying 1-year terms, 2-year terms and three-year terms.

ReVive Virginia Board of Directors

Mike Stone	Britt See-Benes
Rudy Harvey	Dennis Yourczek
Carolyn Tuttle	Betsy Olivanti
Nicki Johnson	Michelle Larson
Paula Okland	Jaimie Niska
Deb Griffiths	

- b) Rudy Harvey explained that the foundation is not able to own property. Dennis Jorgenson explained that VEDA can certainly acquire property, but this could potentially cause the project to be unable to qualify for services that AEOA has to offer. Mike Stone suggesting that an ad hoc committee be created to determine the exact structure of this group. Dennis Jorgenson explained that Chestnut Street in Virginia is already recognized as being a national historic site, however is not recognized by the state. He explained there could be funds available based on this recognition. Motion by Dennis Jorgenson for him to bring the upcoming building purchase to the finance committee meeting next Tuesday that would allow VEDA to become owner of the purchased building. Second by Carolyn Tuttle. Approved.
- c) Mike Stone reminded the group of sidewalk cleanup done last spring and questioning if it should be done again this spring. New events are needed. Betsy Olivanti reported that Jenni Smith from Smith’s Infusion has been in contact with several retailers regarding art shows planned for the summer. Chamber Executive Director, Jaimie Niska, indicated that several ideas are being considered for the opening of the new bridge. Mike Stone reminded the group that now is the time to start planning for the Holiday event – Small Business Saturday, November 25th. Dennis Yourczek encouraging a Christmas lighting contest during the holiday event.

Events Committee

Nicki Johnson	Britt See
Paula Okland	Rudy Harvey

Terri to send email to Jenni Smith confirming that she'll also be part of the events committee. Terri to also send email to Deb Griffiths inquiring as to whether she would like to continue being on the events committee. Rudy will contact committee members to arrange first meeting. Committee Chair to be determined at that time.

- d) Motion by Betsy to combine building and aesthetics committees. Second by Nicki. Johnson. Approved.

Building and Aesthetics Committee

Betsy Olivanti	Joe Guertin
Michelle Larson	Dennis Yourczek
Mike Stone	Dave Tuttle

- e) Terri to email Julianne Paulsen, Jonathan Benz and Steve Johnson and ask if they are interested in remaining on the Safety & Health Committee.

Safety & Health Committee

Carolyn Dinneen

- f) Carolyn Tuttle reminding the entire group that if they have an idea for a committee they should not wait to be asked. Bring the thought to the committee. The need for advertising was discussed . . . Dennis Yourczek, General Manager of Red Rock Radio, suggesting that he can get the word out to hundreds of people in 30 seconds. A Facebook Page is needed – the group is looking for someone to create and maintain the Facebook page. Jaimie Niska still to create a new design for ReVive Virginia. Jaimie will talk to the graphic design instructor at Mesabi and see if they'd be willing to create one.
- g) Motion by Jaimie Niska to begin holding ReVive Virginia meetings the first Thursday of each month at noon with the next meeting being held on Thursday, April 6th at noon.
- h) Motion to adjourn By Dave Tuttle. Second by Paula Okland. Approved.

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 6th at Noon

Virginia Community Foundation, unless otherwise notified