

OAK GROVE HISTORIC TROLLEY TRAIL ASSOCIATION
MAIN STREET AMERICA PROGRAM
MINUTES

March 24, 2017

Attendees:

Al Scott, Annette Guarriello, Twila Lavery, Bobbie Paredes, Eleanore Hunter, Noah Hurd, Mike Schmeer, Geoff Janke, Fallon Kraxberger

1. Old Business:

a. Main Street Overview (handout)

Bobbie explained the Main Street Approach.

b. Secretary of State Registration (handout)

Oak Grove Historic Trolley Trail Association(OGHTTA) is now a nonprofit with the State of Oregon, Registry #130292-95.

c. Main Street America Approval Letter (handout)

OGHTTA is now an Affiliate Member of Main Street America

d. Main Street America Grant Application

Bobbie explained that the grant application has been submitted.

2. New Business:

a. Facilitation Guidelines

Annette explained that all attendees should be respectful of others ideas, talk once and listen twice. Open forums will last 5 minutes each allowing everyone a chance to speak. "I can't" should not be in the vocabulary, instead "How can we make it happen?". Shared vision and shared power.

a. Formation of Organization (handout)

Bobbie explained the Main Street America rep from either the County or State will come and speak to the group in the future, assisting in formation of membership and organization.

3. Reports:

- a. Annette gave a report on her ongoing research of rental bicycle racks for the Trolley Trail.
- b. Annette gave a report on Street Lighting requirements for the County. She handed out maps to everyone to mark where they'd like to see new Street Lights and will collect those maps at next meeting.

4. RoundTable:

- a. All attendees talked about their individual interests and assets for the organization.

Mike Schmeer-Veteran community leader and also Chairman of the History Detectives, would like to see OGHTTA be all about history of Oak Grove and the Trolley Trail. He would like to be the Historian of the group and suggested events by using street closures and setting up a History Detective Tent, with photos for community awareness and education.

Twila Lavery-Owner of Brush and Barrel Art Studio, would like to see art awareness and historydowntown and art events. Initiating "Oak Grove Rock Painting", community event that allows residents to place painted rocks throughout Oak Grove. Would like to see an Oak Grove Sign possibly across the street at Safari Club where an old sign exists.

Noah Hurd-Principal of New Urban High School, would like community events where students can participate and take pride in their neighborhood. He would also like to find a use for underused spaces. The School has a Schoolyard Farm and he would like to see the community get more involved in it. Would like to see use of school's ball field.

Al Scott-Owner of Oak Grove Daycare and Preschool and Community Leader, would like to see First Fridays come back to downtown, as well as a Farmers Market. Suggested a Pet Parade as a simple but effective and fun event. Had several event ideas.

Eleanore Hunter-Veteran Community Leader and Networking Agent, is working with City Repair, a Place Making Consultant that has resources to help give struggling communities an identity. She would like to see an historical sign on McLoughlin with an arrow designating the Historic Downtown Trolley Trail in Oak Grove. Explained that McLoughlin Area Business Plan (MABA) would be a great networking partner. Interested in 4th of July BBQ event. Also would like to see use of school ball field.

Annette Guarriello-Longtime resident of Oak Grove, has been working on bike rack rental installation and also Street Light improvement. Suggests possible grants to help pay for them. Would like to see the new Boys and Girl Club involved in event participation. Interested in safety in the community. Reminds us that "it's just one step at a time!"

Fallon Kraxberger-New resident of Oak Grove, would like to see a meter downtown to measure traffic numbers. Would like to see better stores in downtown to encourage community involvement. Mentioned communities that purchased a downtown building through a community trust. Has experience with event planning for groups and wants to see more events.

Geoff Janke-Veteran Community Leader and networking agent. Suggested a “fake” town where a community creates and designs a theme. Would like to see Trolley Trail as the theme of Oak Grove. Suggested events that include street closure. Has idea of restoring the Oak Grove Tavern building to original structure.

Bobbie Paredes-Owner of The Station at Oak Grove, would like to be the business end of organization. Has a vision of a revitalized downtown area and would like to research grants to fund it.

5. Reports for next Meeting (tentative date April 7, 10am, Brush & Barrel)
 - a. Street Lighting (Annette)
 - b. Bike Racks (Annette)
 - c. Events (Eleanore, Fallon)
 - d. Historic Photos (Mike)
 - e. Potential Grants (Bobbie)