

**BUY LOCAL
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, July 28th 2020 at 9am via Zoom

Meeting started at 9:05am

Purpose of Buy Local: Engage more people in Bellaire's downtown businesses, particularly including local and regional people throughout the entire year.

In Zoom attendance: Christy Wilson, Brenda Fink, Shelly Dayton, Tani Carl, Shana Minish, Durinda Travis, Sue Palmisano

June 23rd meeting minutes were approved by Brenda and 2nd by Shana. All agreed.

1. Rubber Ducky event update:
 - a. Downtown merchants are doing sidewalk sales on Friday & Saturday this year.
 - b. No festival, no parade, no crafters. However, the chamber is still selling ducky tickets and there will be a random drawing on Saturday for the ticket winners.
 - c. The Buy Local group discussed and agreed to spend approx.. \$115 of our remaining DDA budget to place about a 4x5 ad in the Antrim Review for the Rubber Ducky weekend to promote the sidewalk sales and live music. The ad will be generic to the downtown, not mentioning specific businesses, but the downtown as a whole. Brenda will get a proof.

2. Outdoor downtown seating – The group thought it would be good to come up with a name for these outdoor seating areas. The old pharmacy parking lot is now called the Tiffany Commerce Area. But the downtown seating areas as a whole will be marketed as “Fresh Air Open Spaces”.

It was discussed that it would be nice to find a volunteer group to help maintain the Fresh Air Open Spaces. Sue has a group in mind for this.

3. Downtown Map – The map is printed and is currently in transit!

4. The old parking issue subject was brought up and the group said it seemed to be less of an issue this year for some reason. Maybe because of reservations and more take out.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The new docks look nice. It's probably up to this group to create signage for incoming boaters. Maybe something like the QR code signs would be appropriate.

Discussion of the remaining balance of the DDA Buy Local budget needs to be updated. Brenda, Christy and Shelly will work on this. We may decide at next meeting to donate money to the garden club at the triangle (entrance to downtown) for perennial flowers in the fall. Also we may reimburse Christy for the cost of the Zoom meetings.

There's a sign ordinance committee forming and both Brenda and Shana showed interest in being on this committee. Brenda will be updating the Uniquely North signage soon and Shana recently went through the painful current process of signage for Terrain. Both would have great input.

Future discussion of a downtown app and tie in with the chamber. This will be on next month's agenda.

Next Meeting scheduled for August 25th, 9am via Zoom (until further notice)

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am

Respectfully Submitted by:

Christy Wilson
Buy Local Secretary