

Hapeville Main Street Board of Directors Meeting  
May 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Present: Charlotte Rentz, Susan Bailey, Lee Duke, Derrick Booker, Lorenne Fey, Melanie Rabb, Nikki Cales

Absent: David Burt, Ellen Free

Guest: none.

**Call to Order**

- Charlotte Rentz called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM and welcomed all Board members and guests.

**Roll Call**

Charlotte Rentz- *Present*

Susan Bailey- *Present*

Derrick Booker- *Present*

David Burt- *Absent*

Lee Duke- *Present*

Lorenne Fey- *Present*

Ellen Free- *Absent*

Melanie Rabb- *Present*

Vacant

**Approval of Minutes**

- **A motion was made by Lee Duke to approve the April 9, 2025 meeting minutes. Melanie Rabb seconded the motion. Carried 5-0 Abstained.**

**Approval of Financial Statements**

- **April 2025 financial statement will be reviewed in June 2025 meeting.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

2024-2025 Workplan

- Main Street Manager notified the board of purchases made for the Artist Residency program to include keyless entry door handles and cameras.
- Main Street Manager notified the board of a budget amendment that was approved by council in the amount of \$17,260.00 that will be applied to the Main Street account to cover additional costs of the Art District Sign.
- Art District sign has a tentative install date of May 26<sup>th</sup>. The Board would like to plan a reveal celebration.

### Artist Residency Update

- Artist interviews were completed and artists were chosen. The interview panel consisted of Nikki Cales, David Burt, Melanie Rabb, Mary Peabody (Freeside Atlanta), Kathy Garrou (ATL Printmaker's Studio), and Natalie Carner (City of Hapeville).
- 4 Artists were selected: Reinilda Blair, Honey Pierre, Julio Cabellos, and Nick Twiner.

### Gallery Crawl

- The board would like to have umbrellas for shade during this event.
- Main Street Manager has reached out to WM Events to see if renting umbrellas and tables is an option. If not, the board will need to purchase these supplies.
- The goal of the event is to support local artists and bring people into our downtown businesses.
- David Burt is working on securing music performances.
- Main Street Manager is working on securing business participation.
- We would like for attendees to be able to walk the event with alcoholic beverages. The Main Street Manager will review the ordinances for our next steps.
- We can ask Chantelle if she would be interested in bringing some of her puppets to the event.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Committee Discussion

- The Main Street Manager shared an interest in creating Committees related to the 4 standards of National Main Street. The board members chose their committee:
  - Design: Lorenne Fey, Lee Duke
  - Promotion: Melanie Rabb, David Burt
  - Economic Vitality: Derrick Booker
  - Organization: Susan Bailey
- Ellen Free is absent so we will see where she would like to be during our next meeting.
- Charlotte Rentz would like to be included in all committees.
- There is also the potential to reframe the title of these committees to “focus areas.”

#### Sam Hape Plaza landscaping Spring/Summer

- The board reviewed the quote from Simply Flowers and decided to gather more information regarding what is actually being planted before approving.

#### Vacancy/Blight Tax

- The board agreed to not pursue the vacancy tax.
- The board is interested in pursuing the Blight Tax for blighted buildings within the Main Street District.

- This is not a proposal that the Main Street Board would be responsible for maintaining. This is an idea that we can spearhead to assist in improving the vacant and blighted buildings.

### **Next Meeting**

- **June 11, 2025**

### **Announcements**

- Lorenne Fey announced that there has been a cut to federal grant funding. This could effect grant applications that the Main Street Program has completed.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Adjourn**

**A motion was made by Lee Duke and seconded by Melanie Rabb to adjourn May 14, 2025 meeting. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.**

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Charlotte C. Rentz, President

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Nikki Cales, Secretary