

**BROOKSVILLE VISION FOUNDATION (BVF)  
STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL MEETING**

**Joseph E. Johnston, III, City Council Chambers  
201 Howell Avenue  
Brooksville, FL 34601**

***MINUTES***

***February 21, 2017***

***4:00 PM***

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Members and Guests**

*Members and guests present:*

Michael Heard  
Brent Whitley  
Jimmy Kimbrough  
Sue Rupe  
Robert Buckner  
Joe Bernardini, City Council  
Bill Kemerer, City Council  
Sonny Vergara  
Lara Bradburn  
Paul Shaskan  
Ryan Malloy  
Matt Lowman  
Bill Vatter  
Steve Gouldman, City Planner  
Bill Geiger, Community Development Director

The Brooksville Vision Foundation Stakeholders Council meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by BVF Vice Chair, Michael Heard.

Approval of minutes – November 15, 2016

Motion:

Motion was made and seconded to approve the November 15, 2016 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on Main St. Program

Ryan Malloy, newly appointed Main Street Director, was introduced to those present. He went over the program and the coordination efforts needed between the City, the County and the private sector. He mentioned several upcoming events, such as the cycling event, adding that an expanded downtown farmer's market is being considered. He added that Main Street is considering holding more events during the week rather than weekends, as there are more residents and business people in town during the week. Robert Buckner advised of several new professional office tenants moving into the downtown and city-wide areas which he felt was a positive step for economic

growth.

Update on Florida Blueberry Festival

Michael Heard informed those attending that the Blueberry Festival will be held downtown on April 22-23, 2017. In an effort to eliminate street closing costs, Matt Lowman questioned if it had ever been determined that the festival or any Main Street Programs could be held in the downtown area without the streets being totally closed, but rather just narrowed down to one lane with the assistance of law enforcement. Michael Heard advised that it would be a liability issue on many levels, i.e. pedestrian traffic, children safety, use of alcohol, etc.

Art in the Park – March 11 & 12, 2017

Paul Shaskan went over the event, which will include exhibitors, vendors and stage entertainment. He noted that this is the major annual fundraising event for the Hernando County Fine Arts Council. Based on prior years' attendance, they expect 3,500 – 4,000 attendees. In response to Michael Heard's question, Ryan Malloy stated that it is his understanding that the Main Street Program would have a booth at the event but he would check on that. Sonny Vergara reported on the funding that the County has contributed to the Fine Arts Council in previous years, and that the TDC is providing a portion of funding this year. There is an effort at the legislative level to cut small business development and TDC related grant funding at some point.

Reminder of next meeting date – May 16, 2017

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Chatman Field Dedication

Community Development Director Geiger invited all to attend the Ernie Chatman Field Dedication ceremony to be held that evening at 6:30 at Tom Varn Stadium.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

  
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Jennifer J. Battista  
Brooksville Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: 5/16/17