

**BUY LOCAL  
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 9am via Zoom

Meeting started at 9:03am

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, Sam Hall, Trish Fox

July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were approved by Trish and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shelly. All agreed.

1. Rubber Ducky event update: Sam gave update, it went ok. Not great. But the Chamber did make some money and didn't lose money. Brenda said sidewalk sales went very well. Shelly mentioned there was confusion on how and where to buy rubber ducky tickets. Usually most all of the merchants sell the tickets, but that didn't happen this year. There needs to be a "cheat sheet" or itinerary handed out to all merchants so we can all help promote the event and sell more tickets.
2. Downtown Map – The map is out and looks great! Brenda and Shelly are working with Rachel to get a watermark on our map as a PDF so it can be distributed electronically. The watermark should include contact info for the BL group. Shelly will get with Paulo for more distribution as everyone has not seen these yet.
3. Fresh Air Spaces – we still need to find someone to handle recycles. The original group never put containers out. So we need to find another group. Brenda will send out an email to the downtown group to see if anyone is interested. Christy mentioned that for the past month, Shorts staff has been maintaining the Tiffany Commerce Area very well.
4. Boat Docks - Brenda mentioned she has noticed a lot more boat traffic coming into town since the new docks have been installed.
5. Sign Ordinance Committee – Christy has not heard anything more on the new sign ordinance committee scheduling and will update this group when she hears more info.
6. Fall Events – discussion of when to start the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday events back up. We will work with the Chamber for the Harvest Festival in lieu of our September 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday event. Then start back up with October Witches & Warlocks, November Holiday Open House, December PJ party event. We will be careful to continue to follow all social distancing & capacity rules, etc.

7. Chamber update – Sam gave update; the Annual Dinner is still in the works of ½ virtual and ½ in person event at Shanty Creek. The auction will be 100% virtual this year. Probably no Holiday Gift Fair since it's too difficult to social distance and it's at the school. Working on still having the Harvest Festival leaving out some of the activities such as no beer tent or bounce houses.
8. Chamber Foundation update – Christy said the Foundation is still providing sanitation supplies to businesses such as masks, sanitizer, wipes, etc. Just email Louise at [lowenzel@gmail.com](mailto:lowenzel@gmail.com) to ask for supplies.
9. DDA Update – Christy said Joe Short asked if this group would be supportive of a “Be Kind” campaign and the group said definitely yes. Christy also asked this group for their opinion and feedback of how they feel the DDA is doing and discussed some funding resources. Overall the group loves the bathrooms being open and the new Fresh Air Spaces are a big WIN for our downtown. Better communication and bigger marketing for the DDA is necessary. The group felt the DDA may be missing out on parking meter as a potential funding resource. The group is thankful for these projects this year and agreed to put an ad out thanking the many organizations responsible. Trish is working on this.

Next Meeting scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am via Zoom (until further notice)

Meeting adjourned at 10:20am

Respectfully Submitted by:

Christy Wilson  
Buy Local Secretary