

**Portland Main Street Economic Revitalization Committee
Minutes**

**August 29, 2011, 8:00AM
Cheeky Monkey's, Portland**

Committee Attendance: Diane Smith, Beck Ward, Tara Rodriguez, Bernie Pelc
Committee Absences: Ed Bishopp,
Staff: Patrick Reagan

Old Business

Items In the Work Plan:

1. **Business to Business Program:** The committee agreed that an email survey from a broader audience of business owners would be useful to then have a group of business owners do a face-to-face meeting to finalize the plans for the program.
2. **Opera House Revitalization Meeting:** The Sept 17th meeting is on track for preparation and will be reported out on at the next meeting. Reagan suggested visiting the American Pickers Opera House Netflix to see a restored opera house with remarkable resemblance to the Portland Opera House.
3. **Market Study Update:** The committee reviewed the Market Study results and noted that specialty food stores and perhaps a campground may be the best options for Portland for business recruitment and development. The committee agreed that the office supply suggestion didn't have a market because of the options that business owners have for product using on-line ordering and shipping. The committee agreed that a strong business group needs to be created as noted in number one before the idea of consistent later business hours would be addressed. Reagan reported that he and Bishopp have an appointment with the Muir Village Market to discuss our interest for a business related to specialty meat products. The committee discussed the need for such a business to offer products that are not found at Toms Food Center as one step to ensuring there is a market for the business.

New Business

1. **Committee Membership Recruitment:** Smith noted the need to have more downtown business owners on the committee to increase both the production capacity of the committee as well as the credibility of the committee with downtown business owners. Smith will invite the owners of Peppermint Twist/Frosty Boy, the Chocolate Moose and the Taekwon-do. Patrick will invite the owners of the Quilt Shop and Allstate Insurance.
2. **Seminars:** Tabled until the next meeting.

Volunteer Hours Reported:

Ed – 3 hrs; Tara – 3 hrs; Bernie – 2 hrs; Becky- 2 hrs; Diane – 3 hrs.