

City of Princeton
Community Improvement Commission
October 2, 2023

The Community Improvement Commission for the City of Princeton, Mercer County, West Virginia met in the Board Room of the Municipal Building on Monday, October 2nd, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. In attendance were Chairman Samuel Lusk; Vice Chair Lori McKinney; Commission Member Jason Spade; and City Clerk Kaitlyn Smith. Absent were Commission Members Laura Buchanan, Rita Montrosse, Brandon Gilbert and Alternates Becky Kidwell, Kenya Kadjo and Allen Kade. A quorum was constituted thereby.

Call to Order

Chairman Samuel Lusk called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes

Meetings of May 8th and August 9th 2023 - On motion of Chairman Samuel Lusk and a second of Jason Spade, the minutes of the May 8th and August 9th 2023 meetings was approved unanimously.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Ambulance Elves- Chairman Sam Lusk explained that last year Police and Fire Christmas Decorations had been ordered and placed down there in front of each department on Courthouse Road. He would like to obtain an ambulance elf decoration to add there.

After showing the CIC Members what the decoration looked like, Mr. Lusk made a motion to purchase the decoration. Vice Chair Lori McKinney seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lusk showed a picture of a Toy Soldier that CMS (Custom Manufacturing Services) had been working on. He went one to explain that the Toy Soldier decorations that were purchased before were too small to be seen from the roadway. CMS offered to make identical Toy Soldier decorations, just double the size. The decorations should be ready by the middle of November.

Vice Chair Lori McKinney commented that it is a nice way to support their efforts.

Mr. Lusk also provided a detailed map of where all Christmas Decorations would go and a list of the inventory.

Lori McKinney asked if just the snowflakes and ornaments could go on Mercer Street and move the stocking in with the snowflakes on Thorn Street.

Jason Spade stated that would be a good idea.

Sam also noted that there were 22 new power drops for Christmas Decorations.

Façade Grant- The Cat's Meow

Mr. Lusk stated that they had resealed and striped the parking lot and if approved they would get \$1,000.

With a motion from Lori McKinney and a second from Sam Lusk, the motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Lori McKinney stated that there is some public art that she and a few others have been working on. They have been planning this for quite some time and intend to mount a mural on the side of the Riff Raff Arts Collective Building. She goes on to say that they receive a grant for 50% of the cost from the Commission of the Arts.

The mural will be about 70 feet long and 6 feet high and will depict the story of the Riff Raff. It will illustrate the characters that have been part of the energy within the arts collective. The Artist that is working on this piece is Ian Bodhi from Charleston.

She also talked about a project called “Wings on Mercer” where 5 different artists would each paint a set of wings throughout the area, similar to the wings on the side of the Diamond’s and Gold Look building on Mercer Street. They have received a Commission of the Arts Grant to pay for 50% and are looking for businesses to sponsor the rest.

During Peak of the Bloom in 2019, six murals were painted and will be mounted on the side of the old Santon’s building around the same time the others will be placed.

Lastly, Lori shared that the Monster Mash will be on Halloween once again and the grand finale “First Friday” is set for Friday, October 6th.

With no other business, Chairman Sam Lusk adjourned the meeting at 10:29 a.m.