

BRISTOL CORE BOARD MEETING

**Thursday, January 4, 2024, 09:00 AM
ZOOM Meeting**

MINUTES

In attendance: Ian Albinson , Valerie Capels , maura donnelly , Taylor Welch, Meredith Mcfarland

I. Call to order: 9:00 AM

II. New Business

A. Solar Eclipse (Will be in totality)

- April 8th, 2024. Maryann Twyman reached out to Maura – is there anything happening in town, could we make anything happen?
- State is well aware of it and working to make things happen, there was a meeting with tourist board, they might be mailing out solar glasses
- BRD is thinking about a camping program
- School is being released early
- Discussion of support for downtown businesses, special sale? Maybe just downtown things but not shopping.
- Circle back on 18th to discuss more

III. Current Business

A. Executive Director's Report (Alicia)

- Alicia was unable to be in attendance, not much to report post holiday events
- In 2024 Alicia wants to talk about Wellness businesses

B. January Projects

1. Wellness Focus

2. Downtown Designation renewal

- Maura, Alicia, Valerie, and Ian need to meet to discuss and dig in.
- Used to happen every 5 y, now every 8.
- Need to demonstrate that we are doing what we said in our strategic plan and add new things if we want to.

- One of the challenges will be explaining the transition from downtown organization to Bristol CORE and moving away from the committee, will things need to be re-written?
- Gary has said that it's loose, we can follow "Main Street" approach, but over the years things have changed and they allow for that.
- Bristol's Downtown group started because of prince lane project- infrastructure, and has changed over time.
- Bristol CORE is just a DBA name, still the official name is: Bristol Downtown Community Partnership LLC (BDCA)

3. Survey of downtown businesses and buildings.

IV. Board Roundtable

- Need to approve previous minutes on the agenda.
- Ian is working on the fundraising letter. Letter is complete w/500 envelopes. Need more. Previously letter sent just to businesses, has since changed to add to residents (200 people + businesses)
- Now planning to add "new voters to town" to the original list, among 240+ new currently.
- Ian will send a spreadsheet to people to identify who should be sent letters.

V. Adjourn.

Next Meeting – 01/18/24