

Main Street Minutes

July 29, 2010

Paula Carlson

Present

Steve McKelvey (Chair), Bruce Benson, Paula Carlson, Bruce Dalgaard, Roz Eaton-Neeb, Mary Emery, Ted Johnson, Nathan Soland

Agenda for Meeting

Steve proposed the following agenda for the meeting:

- 1) Approval of minutes
- 2) Updates
- 3) Fall semester meeting times
- 4) Next steps for the steering committee
- 5) Review the draft of Main Street objectives

The committee agreed to adopt this agenda for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved as submitted.

Updates

- 1) Steve reported that he and Paula will meet with David Anderson on August 9th to discuss inviting Nathan Hatch or someone else with similar expertise to campus and to update him on the committee's work.

The committee discussed variables relating to hosting a speaker/consultant, including the best time for a visit and the kinds of events and meetings to schedule (i.e., should there be times for the visitor to address faculty and staff separately as well as together?).

Steve noted that in his update to President Anderson he will review the current draft of the Main Street Project objectives and ask for his thoughts on how to engage the wider community when the fall semester starts.

- 2) Steve invited committee members to join him at 2 pm today (July 29th) in the Cage to meet with Ryan Sheppard, Assistant Professor of Sociology. Ryan is teaching an upper-division research class in sociology this fall and asked if the committee would be open to her students doing research to support the Main Street Project. Nathan suggested that students could conduct an alumni survey.

Planning for Fall

Weekly fall semester meeting times were set for Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

[*Note:* After the meeting, Steve emailed to ask if a change in time of 3:15 to 4:45 pm on Thursdays would work for committee members for the fall semester.]

The next meeting of the committee will be Tuesday, August 17th at 1:30 pm.

Steve reminded the committee that its first deadline is January 2011. The committee discussed the nature of the proposal to be submitted in January and the importance of communication with the wider community. The committee agreed to make its reading list and committee meeting minutes available to faculty and staff.

Next Steps

The committee discussed these next steps:

- 1) Invite Kirsten Cahoon, Associate Director of the CEL, to a committee meeting to outline current programs that address Main Street objectives at St. Olaf.
- 2) Get feedback on the Main Street objectives from the wider community (faculty, staff, students, alums, etc.)
 - Host facilitated discussions (with food) in September. Use various locations on campus and possibly off-campus, too. At least two members of the Steering Committee will be present at each discussion.
 - Offer email and conversations with committee members as other possible feedback mechanisms.
- 3) As the proposal is developed, the committee will be mindful of impacts that changes will have on existing programs and offices, such as academic advising and the CEL.
- 4) Invite Enoch Blazis from the Development Office and representatives of the academic advising program and the Admissions Office to meet with the committee.

Main Street Objectives

The committee discussed and proposed some changes to the draft of the program objectives. Paula will email the revised document to committee members.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 17th at 1:30 pm in BC 144.