



SALINA DOWNTOWN

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 18, 2025

Time Scheduled: 7:30 AM

Location: Salina Downtown Inc. - Board room

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at: 7:32 AM
 - Presiding: Aaron Wedel
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II. Roll Call

Board Members

- ☒ Hank Boyer
- ☒ Laurel Driskell
- ☒ Stephanie Gillig
- ☒ John Hendrick
- ☐ John Reber
- ☒ Eric Montoy
- ☒ Jera Richardson
- ☒ Aaron Wedel
- ☐ Matt Pestinger

- ☐ Kelli Webb
- ☒ Christi Nuding
- ☒ Erica Kruekenberg
- ☒ Austin Walker

Staff / Others Present

- ☒ Leslie Bishop (Executive Director)
 - ☒ April Rickman (Marketing & Events Coordinator)
 - ☐ Dian Gebhardt (Aesthetic Specialist)
 - ☐ Guest - None
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III. Approval of Agenda

- ☐ Motion: Hendrick
 - ☐ Second: Nuding
 - ☒ Approved
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IV. Approval of Previous Minutes & Financial Report

- ☐ Motion: Hendricks
 - ☐ Second: Boyer
 - ☒ Approved
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VI. Old Business

1. Introductions - Erica & Austin Walker new board members
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VII. New Business

1. Woods & Durham fee increase - Incremental increases over the years. Bishop recommends continuing to use their surfaces. SDI is busier, so fees are increasing due to W9 increase was mentioned. Dues built in 2026 budget. Hendricks motions. Kruckenberg seconds. Vote approved. Bishop mentions working together to gain efficiencies to use less time.
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IX. Action Items

1. None
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V. Reports

- **Executive Director Report: Leslie Bishop**
 - Bishop attends Kansas Mainstreet training - gained experience from other directors - 22 attendees in total. Learned about room grants for lofts.
 - Leadership KS group at Schwans - for panel talk

- Homewood suites - Merchant mixer - Oct 2nd. Mixer for business owners - SDI board members invited. Will attempt to do quarterly
- Shade Structures - Delay - October 8th Farmers market has to move but may be done early
- Destination Salina - Attended commissioner discussion - Discussed proposal and reminder that Salina can support both and not to see it as a conflict with SDI - Hendricks adds that golfing simulators will compete with SDIs - Skewed visitor results based on where boundary lines are drawn - Bishop mentioned bus route from convention center to downtown. Gillig brings up staffing issue, housing, etc.
- Common consumption passed and discussion noticing activity
- Upcoming events: Fall fixup - Boom - Race for a cure - State Tennis - Baseball - KWU recruitment at yard - Think! Leadership Summit
- KKOA signed contract for 2026
- Visiting Wilson KS - Tourism conference
- Fall fixup - looking for volunteers
- BathPub - Pilates store replacing
- Market shop - business and building sold -
- Montoye equest reports delivered for meeting minutes

- **Committee Reports: April Rickman**

- First Fridays report - extended into Nov - 5 of 7 contracts signed and booked
- Arts & Humanities - Brad Anderson - Discussing CID boundaries -
- Chamber placer login provided - shows visits and employees and various analytics
- Visits trends revolve around prominent events on Friday and Saturdays. Low points are around holidays and closures. Mapped farmers market parking lot and saw good numbers.
- Farmers market - upset members about low numbers - Placer confirmed numbers are fairly consistent and other community conflicts are the probable cause
- Sip & Stroll (Wine Walk) coming up Oct 18 - 12 stops - SDI may volunteer to help vendors that have low staff. Looking into ABC rules - Hotel & Vendors supporting with donations - 53 out 200 tickets sold - Rock glasses shown - Promoting CCA on website to self educate
- Halloween SDI trick or treat - 4-6 PM
- Holiday Open house Nov 2nd
- Parade Entry - went live - 45 out of 120 entries - Evaluating criteria for vehicles allowed
- Bishop notes individual businesses can report visitor number

- **Committee Reports: Diane Gebhart**

- None
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VIII. Additional Discussion Items

- None
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XI. Adjournment

- Motion: Hendricks
Second: Everyone
 - Time Adjourned: 8:09 AM
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Next Meeting

- Date: 10/16/2025
- Time: 7:30 AM
Location: Salina Downtown Inc. - Board Room