

Buckhannon City Council
Special Meeting
Buckhannon Public Safety Complex
13 March 2017

Colonial Theatre Town Hall Meeting

This special Town Hall meeting, held in the Buckhannon Public Safety Complex Community & Training Room at Two Friendly Way, opened at 6:00pm. The following Council Members were in attendance: Mayor David McCauley, Assistant Recorder Amberle Jenkins, Mary Albaugh, Pam Cuppari and CJ Rylands.

Guests:

City of Buckhannon- Colonial Theatre Project MARCH 13, 2017
TOWN HALL Meeting Attendance Record

Name – Please write clearly	Street Address	Do you desire to address Council? Yes or No and if Yes, State Topic	
Marythrop	PO BOX 352 ROCK CAVE, WV 26234	Y	N
Pam Cuppari	72 E Main St.	Y	N
Heather McNemar	112 PARADISE RD BUCKHANNON, WV 26201	Y	N
DAMON JORDON	214 PARADISE RD BUCKHANNON WV 26201	Y	N
Erika Kolenich	115 1stend Ave Buck. WV 26201	Y	N
Patrick Wayne Gower	169 Chancery Ave Buckhannon WV 26201	Y	N
DAN HALE	12 KANIAPPA STREET	Y	N
C S RYLANDS		Y	N
Robert Osburn	1 Tamar Drive	Y	N
Josiah Lallier	654 West 2nd St. West	Y	N
Marcus Black	59 Sioux Dr.	Y	N
Ron Fayh	102 Barbours St	Y	N

Monday, March 13, 2017

City of Buckhannon
TOWN HALL Meeting Attendance Record

Name – Please write clearly	Street Address	Do you desire to address Council? Yes or No and if Yes, State Topic	
Karl Kolenich	Buckhannon WV	Y	N
Jessica Jenkins	BXn, WV	Y	N
Isaac Sans	Buckhannon, WV	Y	N
Curly Frye	Buckhannon Buckhannon WV	Y	N
Brandon Williams	1458 Tallmansville Rd. Buckhannon, WV	Y	N
Ricte Miller	29 E. Main St. Apt 2.	Y	N
Daniel Stiles	120 Fayette St	Y	N
John W. IR	984 Light Chapel Rd	Y	N
Greg Mach	114 S. Fridge	Y	N
Heidi Mach	114 S. Fridge	Y	N
Marjorie Richter	112 Fayette St	Y	N
Judy Warner	30 College Ave	Y	N

City of Buckhannon
TOWN HALL Meeting Attendance Record

Name – Please write clearly	Street Address	Do you desire to address Council? Yes or No and if Yes, State Topic	
Riley Matz	59 College Ave.	Y	(N)
Eric Bee	13 Elizabeth St	Y	(N)
Tammy Reger	Chamber	Y	(N)
Shirley Gysberg	536 Annie Oalsby Rd	Y	(N)
Laura Meadows		Y	(N)
Larry McCannery		Y	N
Patti McCannery		Y	N
Starr Repwood		Y	N

City of Buckhannon
TOWN HALL Meeting Attendance Record

Name – Please write clearly	Street Address	Do you desire to address Council? Yes or No and if Yes, State Topic	
Bridget Waltz	989 Light Chapel Rd. Buckhannon	Y	(N)
April Keating	115 Shawnee Dr	(Y)	N maybe
Hoether Schneider	34 College Ave.	Y	(N)
Joseph Reed	1371 Brush Fork Rd	Y	(N)
Vincent Smith	12225 Buckhannon Pike	Y	(N)
Mary Huth		Y	(N)
Dennis Weeman	961 Mineral Rd, Glenville WV	(Y)	N maybe
JIM TOWNSEND	18 PARK ST. BUCKHANNON	Y	(N)
Kerith & Chris Buckhannon	287 King School House	Y	N Maybe

City of Buckhannon
TOWN HALL Meeting Attendance Record

Name – Please write clearly	Street Address	Do you desire to address Council? Yes or No and if Yes, State Topic	
Rich Clemeas	102 Hickory St	Y	N
ALICIA & JONATHAN CASIE	34 S. FLORIDA STREET	Y	N
Gabe Simon	82 Crystal dr	Y	N
Dion Wharton	241 Shiloh Street	Y	(N)
HAREN SANFORD	384 Forest View Rd	Y	N
Larry McCartney	30 Shawnee Dr.	Y	N
Patti McCartney	30 Shawnee Dr.	Y	N
Amanda Hayes	PO Box 50	Y	(N)
Jim Knorr	16 Gum St	Y	(N)
Judy Knorr	16 Gum St	Y	(N)
CHAD Corley	40 Clarksburg Rd	Y	(N)
Debra Hurn	30 Rock Lane	Y	N

Notice & Meeting Agenda Posted 02-16-17 :

Town Hall Meeting Notice of the City Council of Buckhannon for Monday, March 13, 2017 - 6:00pm- located at the Public Safety Complex Community & Training Room at Two Friendly Way

CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND & CONTRIBUTE INPUT REGARDING USES FOR THE COLONIAL THEATRE BUILDING THAT WAS RECENTLY PURCHASED BY THE CITY. SMALL GROUP TOURS OF THE FACILITY WILL BE INCLUDED!

POSTED 02-16-17

Mayor McCauley open the meeting, welcomed all in attendance and explained the history of the building located at 48 E Main Street, recently acquired by the City of Buckhannon. The building operated as a theatre from 1924 until early 1980’s at which time it was converted to a bar/lounge and extensively changed on the interior.

The purpose of this meeting is to obtain ideas and thoughts from the community on what the future of the building should be.

The following memo was made available and distributed:

Colonial Theatre Town Hall Meeting – 3-13-17 – Public Safety Complex + Colonial Theatre – 6:00 p.m.

I. Property became the City's on January 3, 2017 (just over two months ago)

A. Items accomplished to date-

- 1) Marquee safety issues – removal, repairs, soon to be reinstalled
- 2) Last tenant of previous owner removed the rest of their property
- 3) Electricity – service resumed
- 4) Several safety issues have been addressed
- 5) Substantial demolition work on building

II. Theatre Steering Committee has met several times- primary purposes:

A. To maximize public input & participation as we as a community come together to identify prospective future uses of the building - this requires liberal sharing of info, communicating

B. To guide our architect, Bryson VanNostrand in the vision for the building & thus development of plans & renderings after we acquire public input

C. Possible methods of achieving thorough public input

- 1) Special “town hall” meetings with facilitators at the Community & Training Room
- 2) Tours of the Theatre “as is”
- 3) Speaking to Chamber, UCDA, WVWC, school system, etc., to build support & consensus

D. Begin to identify funding sources for renovation phase- foundation support, City general fund support, private contributions including naming rights, etc., & state & federal grant opportunities

III. Memorializing every step of the cleanup, repair, restoration effort with photos & video- is very important to grant applications, etc.

IV. History

A. The Colonial Theatre was built in 1924, & functioned almost exclusively as a theatre until about 1980. Thereafter it was converted to a bar/restaurant, and had functioned in that manner until a couple years ago

B. During the 1970s the acclaimed author Gray Barker- Men In Black, the Mothman Prophecy- managed & operated the theatre as a cinema

C. Buckhannon touts a rich arts history with former celebrated residents including Pare Lorentz (FDR's award winning documentarian), Ted Cassidy (Lurch of the Addams Family TV series), Gray Barker discussed above, & famous authors born here- Jean Lee Latham, Jayne Anne Phillips, & Steve Coonts. Charlie Harper is an acclaimed naturalist painter from our community. Additionally, Jimmy Pankow, trombonist of the Rock HOF group Chicago- wrote A Ballet for a Girl in Buc[k]hannon that included Colour My World

V. Agenda & Updates

- A. Greetings from David McCauley, mayor - followed by tours of Theatre, return to PSC by 6:40
- B. Bryson VanNostrand, Architect
- C. C.J. Rylands, Council member & Create Buckhannon
- D. Jerry Arnold, Director of Public Works
- E. Amby Jenkins, Director of Finance & Administration
- F. Erika Kolenich, ART26201, Grant application

VI. Breakout groups with facilitators – see questions/talking points on reverse side

Breakout group questions/talking points

- 1) List all possible, desired uses by our community for the Colonial Theatre? e.g., Arts Center, meeting space, museum/archive/display area, vocational training site, other?
- 2) List all community organizations & groups that might use this facility?
- 3) How might the Strawberry Festival utilize this building?
- 4) How important is it to engage our school system, WVWC, & Stockert Youth Center in this project? If it is important, how do we successfully engage those constituencies? Is youth involvement integral to the success of this project?
- 5) What are possible ways to generate funding to renovate & maintain the Colonial Theatre?
- 6) What is the most important “next step” in this renovation project?
- 7) What physical plant elements must be included in this building renovation?
- 8) How important is it to conduct additional community forums such as this evening’s Town Hall meeting?
- 9) What kind of special programs, performances, presentations, etc., might occur in this facility?
- 10) Can our community sustain a multi-use facility such as this? What are the greatest challenges to success?

Mayor invited all in attendance to conduct a tour of the facility and return to the safety complex to continue discussions.

Upon returned, attendees were asked to break-out into groups to discuss topics outlined in the memo.

There was extensive discussion among the groups and each group had a facilitator that took notes then explained in a summary, to the entire room, each of the group’s thoughts and ideas. After each group had presented their report, each person in attendance were given one red and one blue dot to attached to the topics they felt were most important.

The following is a calculation of the votes, plus a calculation of the number of times the ideas were noted on each of the summarized reports from all the groups.

List possible uses.What kind of special programs, performances, presentations might occur in facility	blue	red	#times mentione
Buckhannon Community Theatre/stage/Performances/rehersal		12	2
Multi Use		13	2
Screens Audio			1
Art classes-all types		1	2
Mini Museum			1
Recording studio film documentaries-record theatre process		2	5
Festival Fridays			2
Merge age group skills/arts		1	2
Live Music/battle of bands/local bands/competition		1	1
Exhibition/art display space			3
conferences/meeting space			2
adult(18+) clubs- no alcohol			1
teen dance/hangout - no alcohol		1	2
reunions			1
air hockey/pool table/youth night			1
Dinner theater			1
emergency response heat/cool/charge stations		1	1
Improv night			2
off-campus for WVWC classes/lectures			1
car shows (to get out of weather)			1
farmers market (during bad weather)			1
Family films - low cost		3	1
Parties - low cost			1
Free market			1
Living history			1
speakers/ lecture/ readings/education			2
annual vagina monologues			1
Ted Cassidy festivals			1
Storage			4
Movie Festival/old films		2	2
Store to left-use it			1

Community organization & Group that might use facility	Blue	Red	#times mentioned
Square Dance			1
Stockert Youth			1
Schools high school/ elementary/middle			5
Teens/youth/groups			2
Summer Stock			1
Pottery			1
College			2
Artistry on Main			1
Arts Alliance			1
Create Buckhannon			1
Hospital/medical/health education		1	3
City Council			1
Buckhannon community Theatre			2
Traveling Authors/artists/exhibits			3
Art groups accoustics			1
Strawberry Festival			1
Many groups that need meeting space			1

How might Strawberry Festival utilize building

Storage	1
exhibit/display area	4
bands	2
concessions	1
talent shows	2
post parade station	1
royalty/pagent	2
meetings	1
head quarters	1
craft show	1

How important is it to engage school system, SYC,

Especially involve elementary school	1
SYC; youth theatre;education;arts;dance;resource	2
Involve for volunteer clean-up	1
coordinate efforts so don't compete with others	1

What ways to generate funding	blue	red	#times mentioned
Grants			3
Endowments			1
Get other Communities involved			2
Naming facility/seats/bricks		4	5
fund raising			2
coffee shop/concession in facility			2
membership	1		1
captial campaign	2		1
donations			1
Percentage of ticket sales		1	1
door prizes - low cost			1
Arts sales -commission			1
Benefit performances			1
Camps - barter for fee			1
Fee for using/sotrage facility			1
levy			1

Next Step in renovation project	blue	red	#times mentioned
Establish plan		2	1
Establish budget	2		1
establish funding sources			1
Getting marquee up		1	2
roof			1
Pool information gathered			1

What Physical Plant elements must be included in renovation	blue	red	#times mentioned
Separate Balcony			3
1st Floor Level			2
Steps on Second Floor			1
what do we want front to look like			1
generator			1
sprinklers			1
Create facility that contributes to existing stru	1	1	4
solar panels			
Ada Compliant			3
all gender restrooms			1
no food or catering			1
parking			1
utilities			1
safety			1
HVAC			1

Should public forums continue	blue	red	#time mentioned
Keep people involved		1	3
Volunteers			3
news/ tv/ social network			
note:Rick Miller volunteered to help social media			2

Can Community sustain multi-use.. What challenges	blue	red	#times mentioned
Need Executive Director/staffing		1	1
Money		1	4
advantage to city owned			1
long term project "have to start somewhere"			1
volunteerism			1
cooperation of those using facility			1

In summary it appears the majority of those in attendance feel it should be a multi-use building, leaning towards, the Arts as a major function.

The meeting broke at approximately 8:30 pm.

Mayor David McCauley _____

Assistant Recorder Amberle Jenkins _____