



A Grand Vision for the Heartland

## Grow Grand Island Committee Meeting

<b>Date*Time*Location</b> 9-1-16 * 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM * Tom Dinsdale Auto	<b>Recommendation Number and Name</b> Arts and Entertainment Committee
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Attending: Charity Adams, Sharena Anson, Tricia Beem, Ralph Brown, Mandy Burkett, Don Deitemeyer, Christie DePoorter, Margaret Hornady, L.J. McCormick, Tammy Morris, Carol Schooley, Steve Fosselman, Miranda Keiper.

Speakers: Christie DePoorter, Downtown Director, Brent Lindner & Sharena Anson with Fork & Knife Productions

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/WHO	WHEN
Community Update	The group shared arts and entertainment updates and related events.	None	n/a
Presentations	<p><b>Christy DePoorter, Director of the Downtown Grand Island Business Improvement District</b>, provided a great overview of the downtown including new logo, branding and marketing campaign <i>Arrive Railside</i>. "Our promise is to be Destination Grand Central as a place for business, culture, entertainment, food, shopping and most of all living." DePoorter shared that downtown is the heart of GI and everyone is working together to make it vibrant, relevant, urban hip and successful. She reported on the structure of the downtown business improvement district, statistics on the occupancy of buildings, new businesses, current numbers of lofts/apartments as well as what the new number will be when current construction projects are completed.</p> <p><b>Brent Lindner &amp; Sharena Anson with Fork &amp; Knife Productions</b> Lindner owns the Necropolis Group which includes the downtown businesses of Bonzai Beach Club, Wave Pizza Co., Sin City Grill, the Glass Bar and J. Alfred Prufrocks. Anson owns and operates the Chocolate Bar and has been very involved with the Downtown Business Improvement district as had her husband Amos Anson.</p> <p>Both restaurateurs collaborated with Hear Nebraska's The Good Life Tour in 2015 and loved the concept of promoting free concerts starring Nebraska's own musical talent. Local sponsorships were obtained to cover expenses and 2016 was a big success. Fork &amp; Knife Productions was created and took a giant leap of faith by becoming the sponsors for a Hear Grand Island concert series. 10 consecutive Friday nights, downtown in the Railside Plaza, local acts and Nebraska bands played free concerts for the public. Lindner and Anson wanted to attract a younger mature audience as well as families and couples and that is the mix that 'Arrived Railside' on June 24 for the first concert, which coincided, with the Railside branding launch. Food trucks and an adult beverage bar accompanied each Friday night concert with good returns from the concert crowds. In addition, they heard from other downtown businesses that the Friday concert nights brought them their best ever cash register receipts. It does indeed look like there will be a 2017 Hear Grand Island concert series in Railside Plaza.</p>	None	n/a
Committees	Brief updates were provided from the committees.		

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 3, 2016 at Dinsdale Auto from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Volunteer Hours: 45