

# Minutes from Business Enhancement Meeting #2

August 22, 2024

Those in attendance were: Mayor Michelle Mullinix, Councilmember Sheila Curtis, City Clerk Atchison, Craig and Laura Hanna, Christi Droege – USD 454, Brandi Shaffer – Burlingame Library, David and Sam Garrison, Anne Baer, Matt Murphy, John Primm, Charlie and Kelly Atchison and Mark Hecht,

The meeting started with a presentation from Craig Hannah on “Let’s Go Back To Burlingame” Mr Hannah did a slide presentation on how Humboldt, KS revived it’s downtown community and compared it to Burlingame. He developed a goal/mission as well as a plan in three phases which he discussed with the group.

Goal/Mission: To improve the downtown. Help local entrepreneurs create lasting new businesses. And help raise the Burlingame Experience.

The plan in 3 Phases

Phase 1: Renovation of downtown structures & street

Phase 2: Incubate/accelerate local small businesses that serve and improve the community

Phase 3: Encourage visitation and growth through broader business initiatives (special events, Inn, Wedding Venue, Microbrewery, or local chef-driven restaurant)

After the presentation, each phase was discussed.

## Phase 1: Renovation of downtown structures & street

- Soften Santa Fe with trees along the sidewalks and benches
- Tree Board could check with K-State and Tree Board about plans for this idea.
- Dave Garrison advised we need to be cautious about what type of trees we get with their roots and the water system that goes into the front of the buildings on Santa Fe.
- Anne Baer discussed we could do smaller trees in planters along Santa Fe
  - Mayor Mullinix suggested talking to Colton Hallgren at Osage Hardware and Becky at Osage Garden and Produce.
  - Patty will also discuss with K-State Tree Program about the trees
- Need to move the Farmer’s Market to the grass area next to the Library.
  - Need to have a sign on Santa Fe advertising the Farmer’s Market each Saturday.

## Phase 2: Incubate/accelerate local small businesses that serve and improve the community

- Creating VRBO’s or Airbnb will provide places for people to stay in Burlingame
- Need a Restaurant for visitors to eat
- Need an Industry or a business that employs people
- Discussed the Sidewalk Grant and the MIH Grant
- Suggestion was to sponsor a hunting contest
- Play music all the time through a sound system on Santa Fe
- Patronize and support the new businesses that start in Burlingame.

Phase 3: Encourage visitation and growth through broader business initiatives (special events, Inn, Wedding Venue, Microbrewery, or local chef-driven restaurant)

- Put a video together about the upcoming Country Christmas
- Advertise Burlingame on Social Media. Share upcoming events for the City Sign and social media so it brings people to Burlingame.
- City Wide Garage Sales brings lots of people to Burlingame, a great time to advertise our community and showcase your Business
- Use Facebook Events for upcoming community events and activities
- Use TV to help market Burlingame and advertise our events
- The cost to start a business is very expensive, so combine and pool money together and invest in a building or business.
- Brick street repair is needed. You don't need to repair the entire street, just some of the bad spots. It takes time to scrape the bricks and put them back on the street.
  - Have a community work-day each year to focus on one spot on the street and repair.
  - Community Work-Day to paint the streets and poles this year.
  - Brick streets will be 100 years old in 2025

A review of the Business Survey Letters was mailed to owners of vacant lots or buildings on Sant Fe. We received 5 letters back. All five properties want to sell their buildings

- 105 East Santa Fe
- 110 West Santa Fe
- 113 West Santa Fe
- 109 West Santa Fe
- 103 and 105 West Santa Fe

The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States will be on July 4, 2026.

- Water Wars
- Community Pot-Luck Dinner
- Foam Bus
- Craft Vendors

The City Website needs to be improved and inviting for businesses

Burlingame Garden School

- FFA Meeting at USD 454 on 08/28/24 at 7 pm
- Mayor Mullinix discussed a vacant lot next to Senior Apts. as a potential space for the garden

City Clerk Atchison advised she has a couple of books and information on available community grants.