

CITY OF MARIANNA
COMMISSION AGENDA MEMO
DATE: 02/06/2018

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT

Subject: APA CPAT Visit and Marry Marianna Celebration Proclamation

Subject Background: In 2016 the West End Community approached the City Commission about a second CRA to assist with economic development and neighborhood revitalization. In November 2016, the City of Marianna and Jackson County Board of County Commissioners jointly submitted an application to the American Planning Association (APA) for a Community Planning Assisting Team (CPAT) to visit the area and provide a plan for the west end corridor into town. The corridor extends along Penn Avenue from I-10 north to Lafayette Street. The application was selected in January 2017. In April 2017, Ellen Heath, FAICP (Atlanta), the team leader and the American Planning Association Programs Manager, Ryan Scherzinger (Chicago), visited Marianna. Ellen Heath has more than 30 years of planning experience in many different areas. recent employment, Heath was employed by the National Park Service, where she served as the community planner for the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta.

Recently the City has been notified that the CPAT has been selected and will be in Marianna from Sunday, February 25th to Friday, March 2nd, 2018. The team includes: Peter Costa, AICP, who is a transportation and environmental planner; Sonja Ewing, AICP, whose specialty is park, urban and suburban planning, community engagement and place making; Thomas Lavish, who has more than 32 years of real estate and economic development experience; and Mary Morgan, AICP, who is an urban designer and planner with an architecture background.

While the team is in town there will be a public meeting at the Ag Center on Penn Avenue with both the City and County Commissions on Tuesday, February 27th and Thursday, February 29th. Also, there will be stakeholder meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Monday, February 26th the City and County are hosting a "Marry Marianna Celebration" where the City and the County commit to working together on this project with the citizens and ask the citizens to commit to making a difference in their community. The celebration will include a ceremony at 6:00 pm.

Recommendation: Read and approve the attached Proclamation.

Potential Motion: Read and approve the attached Proclamation.

Prepared by: Kay Dennis, Director

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