

Friends of Spur Main Street Application to Texas Rural Communities

Section I – Contact Information

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Section II - Purpose of Organization

Spur, Texas is a small rural farm and ranch community with a population of 1,088. Spur is the largest town in Dickens County, located 72 miles East of Lubbock. Our community was chosen as a Texas Historical Commission Main Street City in 2007 and received National Recognition from the National Trust for Historic Preservation 2008 to be honored at National Conference at Philadelphia in March.

Friends of Spur Main Street Association Incorporated is a Non-profit organization created to address the community issues of historic preservation and economic restructuring. Friends of Spur Main Street works to bring community volunteers, fund raising events, government grants and private funding to implement the Main Street program of economic restructuring and historic preservation.

Section III

a. Description of proposed educational program

Friends of Spur Main Street are working to bring educational speakers to the remote area of Dickens County. These workshops will be free and open to participants in the Spur area who demonstrate a desire to serve the community. The workshops will be scheduled to cover a series of topics that address the following;

Community Revitalization Strategies

This is a workshop to organize, define and develop plans that incorporate the city's comprehensive plan for infrastructure improvements. Participants will Prioritize the community's needs and learn how to influence local government decision making by offering recommendations and helping establish resources for specific projects.

Community Resources and Economic Restructuring

This workshop will identify what resources are available to the community and develop strategies to rebuild the local economy and restore neighborhood vitality.

Job Creation = Economic Growth

This work Shop will identify what type jobs are best suited for the area. It will line out the strategies used to create those jobs through developing a skilled workforce, and consider the incentives and sponsorships needed to maintain a long term viable workforce.

The Ten Steps to Economic Development

This workshop will identify the ten critical components that all community leaders can use to develop a successful Economic Development Program.

Regional and Rural Partnership

This workshop will identify the benefits of working together with other communities in the area to maximize resources and attract opportunity that will promote marketing, education and networking toward a common goal

b. Proposed program participants

An invitation to participate in the program will be announced in the local news to all citizens of the spur area. Special invitations will be extended to Spur High School Students, Spur Ex-Student Association Members, Dickens County Senior Citizens, Spur Area Chamber of Commerce Members, Spur Main Street Advisory Board Members, Dickens County Historical Commission Members, Spur Economic Development Corporation Directors, City and County Officials, and all local civic organizations. A limited number of twelve participants will be selected to attend each workshop based on their commitment to serve the community as a leader in economic development and historic preservation.

c. Proposed program budget

<u>Estimated expenses</u>		<u>Proposed funds</u>
Supplies	130.00	Spur Main Program
Telephone	50.00	City of Spur
Rent & Utilities	225.00	City of Spur
Printing & Copy	150.00	Grant Funds
Equipment	220.00	Grant Funds
Postage & Press	250.00	Grant Fund
Salaries	2,500.00	Grant Fund
Lodging & Travel	1,175.00	Grant Fund
Lunches	600.00	Grant Fund
Total	\$5,300.00	

We are requesting a total grant of \$4,895.00 to fund the Training workshops for community leaders.

d. Proposed deliverables

Local workshops presented to the citizens of Spur offer an innovative way to build leaders within the community. These leaders will become well informed and prepared to meet the challenges of developing an economically sound rural community. The community will in turn be capable of supporting a program that assures the preservation of Spur's historic integrity, which is the ultimate goal of The Friends of Spur Main Street.

The problem of having no available training for community leaders within a 75 mile radius would be solved by bringing professional educators to Spur.

e. Proposed schedule

Each workshop will be conducted once a month according to the best schedule as arranged with each instructor. The workshops will be scheduled between 9am and 2pm with a lunch break provided on site for participants and instructors.

The following instructors were invited to conduct the workshops; we are waiting for their response.

March, Workshop I

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION STRATAGIES

Mrs. Judy Skowron, Mesquite Chamber of Commerce Director of Convention and Visitors Bureau Dallas/Fort Worth

April, Workshop II

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC RESTRUCTURING

Mr. Lance Bowman, South Plains Association of Governments, Lubbock

May, Workshop III

JOB CREATION = ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. Paul Henderson, South Plains College, Plainview

June, Workshop IV

THE TEN STEPS TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Karl Stundins, AICP, Plainview

July, Workshop V

REGIONAL AND RURAL PARTNERSHIPS

Mrs. Lorrie Vincent, High Ground of Texas, Stratford

Section IV

Example of how project may be duplicated in other rural communities

Most rural communities have a limited number of leaders who are qualified to address common problem of economic decline. It is often the case that a few dedicated leaders become overburdened and eventually resign their position, thus leaving the city with a group or unprepared individuals who struggle to keep the community going. It is imperative that some system of educational training be available to prepare these individuals for the task. In the case of isolated rural communities like Spur, time, travel and expense make training for leadership volunteers out of the question.

The workshop project proposed by the Friends of Spur Main Street will provide an example of how other rural communities can take steps to solve the common problem of training local leaders. The Friends of Spur Main Street will offer an ‘Outline for Rural Community Leadership Training’ and offer it free of charge to any rural Texas community wishing to follow the program we offer at Spur as a result of the resources provided by The Texas Rural Communities grant.

Attachments:

- a. List of Board of Directors**
- b. Current fiscal year budget, balance sheet, profit/loss statements**
- c. Letters of recommendation**
- d. IRS 501 (c) 3 – EIN Number 4110947**

Friends of Spur Main Street and the Spur Main Street Program wish to thank Texas Rural Communities for the opportunity to apply for this grant and offer our appreciation and gratitude for the service TRC is offering to rural communities like Spur.