

Swan
Hosp
, in l
den
k pl
Stg
dspd
pld
s al
TRC
eig
leel
nc

11/19/03

RD

Main Street group receives donation and challenge

Community visionaries are looking at Brookville's Main Street in a new light. They see brick sidewalks complementing the limestone curbing, café tables on the sidewalks and attractive storefront facades.

The volunteers have created Main Street Brookville, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing our founder's original investment on Main Street. The vision includes supporting the existing business owners while encouraging a place where visitors want to shop and linger.

The Main Street group, led by Sid Bradley, was recently honored with a \$5,000 anonymous gift. This gift is being held as a challenge to our community to raise another \$5,000. Once the \$10,000 is held, Main Street will apply to the Indiana Department of Commerce for a \$50,000 planning grant. The \$50,000 grant is not for bricks or flowers, but for a consulting company to outline a blueprint for the development of Main Street.

Thanks to a meeting with Dana Riddle, Project Manager for the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Main Street Brookville learned other grant funds are available. For example, grants from the Indiana Commerce Department will help with lighting and facades. Riddle agreed to guide Main Street Brookville through the granting processes. She will take a letter to the next Brookville Town Board meeting to request support for the project.

Main Street Brookville, with the assistance of Suzi Frye, will be sending letters to every business and residence owner along Main Street. The letter will outline the group's intent along with an invitation to take part in the efforts.

At the next meeting, November 24 at Noon in the Brookville Library conference room, committees will be formed. The by-laws have been written, and a non-profit designation from the state is being sought.