

MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Downtown Development Authority Board held a regular scheduled meeting on September 8, 2021. Roll call was as follows:

Chair, Dawn Zmuda	Asbent
Vice Chair, Debi Smith	Absent
Raymond Brown	Present
Jeff Chandler	Present
Rick Peel	Present
Kim Rozier	Absent
Jennifer Reeder	Present
Interim City Manager, Rose Marcus	Present
Building Inspector, Don Herrin	Absent
DDA Director, Molly Hall	Present
Secretary, Tracy Smith	Absent

Mr. Chandler made a motion seconded by Mr. Brown to approve regular scheduled meeting minutes for August 2021. All board members present voted yes.

Discussion was held on the following old business:

- Sign Grant Application- The board reviewed an application for a Sign grant for new restaurant Dulce Kitchen to be located at 146S. Macon Street. The applicant requested a \$870 grant for an aluminum sign totaling \$1,740. Mr Chandler made a motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Reeder. All present voted yes.
- Banquet 2021: Mrs. Hall announced that she felt it would be best to postpone the DDA Banquet in light of board member Debi Smith’s hospitalization. Mrs. Reeder made a motion to postpone, seconded by Mr. Peel. All present voted in favor of postponing the banquet.
- First Fridays – Mrs. Hall announced she would also like to hold off on the October First Friday event in light of the current COVID-19 spike. She stated that she is continuing to plan for the Food Truck Friday & Non-Profit Night on November 5th. This event will kick off the First Friday series for 2021-2022.

Discussion was held on the following new business:

- Pocket Park: Mrs. Hall gave an update on the Old Chamber Lawn lot. She presented the renderings from UGA Carl Vinson for the property. The lot would include removal of the “Christamas” tree and gazebo. It would also include planting of new trees, a pergola, replacement of the sign, a small platform, and a path to the train depot. The board was all in favor of the plan for the property. Mrs. Hall stated that the plan would be presented to City Council on Oct. 5th and encouraged board members to attend.
- Director Hall gave her report:
 - Mrs. Hall updated the board on Scarecrows Among Us. She stated applications are due by Oct. 1st. Scarecrows will be up by Oct. 14th and judging will be held on the 15th.
 - Downtown Christmas: Mrs. Hall stated that Santa has been reserved for Dec. 3, 10, and 18 at Café Euro. She stated that the Tree Lighting and Holly Jolly First Friday will be held on Dec. 3rd.

- Georgia Arts Council Grant: Mrs. Hall updated the board on the Vibrant Communities Grant from the GA Arts Council. She stated that the artist submissions were due by Sept. 9th and that a meeting would be set to review them.
 - Mrs. Hall announced that the GA Academy of Economic Development is set to host several one-day trainings and board members may find it educational.
- The board held an executive session to discuss property.

The next DDA meeting was scheduled for October 13, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned,

Molly Hall

Director