

MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Downtown Development Authority Board held a regular scheduled meeting on August 11, 2021. Roll call was as follows:

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

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

Discussion was held on the following old business:

- Cash Mob: Mrs. Hall stated that the Cash Mob promotion had ended and the winners were as follows: \$100 – C. Jackson – Jersey Mike’s, \$150 – Tecia Cuthbert – Oscar’s Seafood, \$250 – Penny Shaw – David’s Clothing, \$500 – Cindy Nichols – Murphy Builder’s Supply. She stated that winners selected their business of choice to receive a gift certificate to, and a total of \$1,000 in prizes was spent in downtown businesses. Mrs. Hall also updated on the Sidewalk Sale held on July 31, 2021. She stated that the attendance for the event was excellent and she had received lots of positive feedback from the downtown merchants. Chair Zmuda stated it would be a good idea to hold the event twice a year, and Mrs. Hall stated that she plans to hold another one around the holiday season.
- Façade & Sign Grant program- Mrs. Hall stated that per the changes to the grant program last meeting she made updates to the application. She presented the board with the revised application. Mr. Chandler made a motion to accept and adopt the new application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown and all members present voted yes.
- Downtown Banquet 2021: Mrs. Zmuda gave an update on the participating restaurants for the DDA banquet. Mrs. Hall noted that the date of the banquet was changed to Sept. 23rd in light of a conflicting event downtown on the 16th. The board were presented with a list of downtown businesses to reach out to and invite. Mrs. Hall stated that the invitations would be sent out at the end of the month as well.
- Georgia Arts Council Grant: Mrs. Hall updated the board on the Vibrant Communities Grant from the GA Arts Council. She stated that the grant application would be complete by the end of the month and the DDA is requesting \$5,000 with the \$5,000 from the Master Plan projects budget. The funds will be used to complete a “Welcome to Jesup” mural on the side of the Sugar N Spice building. She also announced that the “Call for Artists” went out on August 9th and she stated she is soliciting submissions from prominent artists. Submissions for the project are due by Sept. 9th and a committee will be formed to review proposals and select finalists. The timeline is to have the project competed by January 2022.

Discussion was held on the following new business:

- Director Hall gave her report:
 - She updated the board on the renderings for possible uses for the Old Chamber lot downtown. She stated she is awaiting the drawings from UGA Carl Vinson, and has a meeting set up with Danny Bivins for the following week at the GDA Downtown Conference.
 - She stated that she is continuing to work on the first two First Friday events set for October and November. October's event is titled Historical Hauntings with ghost tours of downtown in the works with the Historical Society. November's event will feature food trucks and local non-profits. She stated that she has secured 3 well-known food trucks from Savannah and a shaved ice truck from Jacksonville.

- The board reviewed an application for a Façade grant for new restaurant Dulce Kitchen to be located at 146S. Macon Street. The applicant requested a \$2,500 grant for exterior painting totaling approximately \$8,800. Mrs. Hall stated that they also are requesting a sign grant, but have not provided all of the required documentation. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the façade grant application. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion, and all board members present voted yes. No action was taken on the sign grant application, and Mrs. Hall said she has notified the business owner about the required documents and plans to bring back to the board upon receipt.

The next DDA meeting was scheduled for September 8, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned,

Molly Hall

Director