

Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan Downtown Development Authority Wednesday, September 11, 2019 8:00 am – Newnan City Hall

Members Present: Ray DuBose, Keith Brady, Casey Smith, Jim Thomasson, Brant Frost, Martha Ann Parks

Staff Present: Abigail Strickland, Hasco Craver

Visitors Present:

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:00am
2. The previous meeting minutes were reviewed by the Authority. Casey Smith made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented to the Authority. Brant Frost seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Abigail Strickland presented the financial report and noted the following account balances:
 - a. BOZ Primary- \$26,952.36
 - b. BOZ MMI – \$118,421.01
 - c. YTD Income - \$78,977.96
 - d. YTD Expense - \$75,983.70
4. Abigail Strickland provided an update regarding ongoing projects. Wadsworth Alley project is completed with games such as giant jenga, connect four, and cornhole available. Ray Dubose requested an update on alley usage. Abigail Strickland stated that when visiting the alley there is usually always someone in the alley enjoying the space.

Ray DuBose informed the Authority that Team Better Block final observations will be reviewed and presented to the Authority when Courtney Harcourt returns from maternity leave.

5. Keith Brady informed the Authority that at the last City Council meeting the Christmas Commission Chair, Norma Haynes, asked City Council to repair and replace the lights on the trees throughout downtown. There are a total of thirty-one trees and City Council approved to finance the repair and replacement of eight of the thirty-one trees. The Christmas Commission is looking for sponsors for the remaining twenty-three trees. The lights would need to be removed from the tree, the tree would then be trimmed, and then the new lights would be added to the tree. The Christmas Commission has found a vendor to do the work, the vendor also does the lights for Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Casey Smith questioned how often the tree lights would need to be replaced. The tree lights are covered under a warranty for two years, but could last longer after the warranty is

expired. Keith Brady stated that the City Council will be paying for eight trees, Brant Frost has committed to two trees, The Hollis Trust has committed to ten trees, the Carnegie Foundation committed to one tree, and Bob Coggin has also committed to one tree. Keith Brady suggested that the Authority consider sponsoring two trees at the cost of \$1400 a piece, \$2800 total. Brant Frost requested to repeat the financial report. Abigail Strickland stated that the funds would need to be transferred from the Money Market account. Jim Thomasson made a motion to sponsor two trees. Brant Frost made a motion to sponsor three trees. Martha Ann Parks seconded the motion to sponsor three trees. The motion carried.

6. Abigail Strickland provided the manager's report regarding past and upcoming events:
 - a. Sunrise on the Square Road Race occurred on Saturday, August 31st. There were 290 runners which was 20 less than the previous year. Though the runners decreased, the race profits increased due to the price increase of \$5 per runner and additional \$5 for long sleeve shirt option. There are still some remaining costs that need to be expensed but it is estimated that the check to Boys & Girls Club will be around \$4500, a large increase compared to the \$2000 given to Communities in Schools the previous year. The Boys & Girls Club met all requirements and made the race easier on staff. Jim Thomasson stated that he did not run in the race this year but that there was a bike race that came through Coweta County on the same day and time as the race that had 3200 participants. The Authority agreed that we should see if we could incorporate the bike race with the road race next year. Keith Brady also requested to contact Bike Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) to see if we can host the riders again in the future.
 - b. Oktoberfest tickets have gone on sale and 150 of 450 tickets have already been sold. There are 30 business participants.
 - c. The Georgia Trust has cancelled the Fall 2020 Ramble to Newnan. They hope to reschedule another Ramble in Newnan soon.
7. The meeting was adjourned 8:11am.

**Next Meeting:
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