

Meeting Minutes
City of Newnan
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, June 19, 2019
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall

Members Present: Ray DuBose, Brant Frost, Martha Ann Parks, Casey Smith, Graylin Ward, Jim Thomasson

Staff Present: Courtney Harcourt, Abigail Strickland

Visitors Present: Winston Skinner

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:01am
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. Martha Ann Parks seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Courtney Harcourt presented the financial report and noted the following account balances:
 - a. BOZ Primary- \$28,495.22
 - b. BOZ MMI – \$118,647.21
 - c. BOC UWG - \$0.00
 - d. YTD Income - \$24,733.00
 - e. YTD Expense - \$41,369.40
4. Courtney Harcourt provided an update regarding ongoing projects. The Wadsworth Alley project is almost complete. Courtney Harcourt informed the authority that Atlanta Gas Light ran into issue locating the gas line during a utility check. The utility check was finally complete after a month. Final projects include working with City of Newnan Public Works to put in posts in the ground for the artwork and installing the border wall. Project Partner, Newnan Coweta Board of Realtors will be scheduling one last workday to install the border and complete one last cleanup. Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority that additional seating was purchase with the remaining grant funding. The Downtown Sign Shop made an in-kind donation by wrapping the street signs in historic photos.

Ray Dubose requested an update regarding the 34/36 Madison property. Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority that Josh Steed, owner of 34/36 Madison, has submitted plans to the Planning Commission to be reviewed in July. Steed intends to pay tribute to the original use of the building, a livery. Maps were discovered from the 1930s stating that the building was the bank.

The second DDRLF project is an existing downtown business owner who is expanding the business and will be doubling staff and adding services. The IPA has been sent to DCA. The project will come to the Authority before the project in complete. The applicant plans to acquire the building in June but will not begin work until December.

The proposed project for the former Caldwell Tanks site went before the Planning Commission last week. The potential development request a zoning variance to change the zoning from Central Business District to Mixed Use Development. The Planning Commission unanimously decided to request that City Council deny the proposed project. The project will go before City Council in July who make the final decision on the zoning variance.

5. Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority that AARP has chosen Newnan for the Community Challenge Grant. Newnan is one of three communities in Georgia that has received the grant. The grant is \$5,000 and the Authority must match the grant in order to receive the grant. This grant will focus on the alleyway between Carnegie Library and Central Baptist Church. Potential partners for this project could include the City of Newnan, Central Baptist Church, and the Headley family. The next step is to meet with the city attorney to present the project to the owners attached to the alley. The project will include painting the concrete, adding art, and hanging lights. Courtney stated that there has been an uptick in pedestrian traffic through the alley due to the closure of Brown Street.
6. Abigail Strickland presented the Manager's Report and informed the Authority about events.
 - a. The first Summer NewnaNights was hosted last week and was a success. It was estimated that 500-750 people attended the event. Some of the food vendors ran out of food and we plan to find more food vendors for the next event.
 - b. The 4th of July Parade will be hosted on July 4th at 9am. Abigail Strickland noted that registration was still available to participate in the event. Courtney Harcourt suggested that the Authority consider finding a long-term sponsor for the 4th of July Parade. The event has not continued to grow over the last few years and bringing in a community partner might benefit the event. Martha Ann Parks stated that she thought Leisure Serves department would be taking over the event. Courtney Harcourt stated that the Leisure Services department is currently not creating or hosting events. Jim Thomasson questions the amount of volunteers that were needed to host the event. Abigail Strickland informed the Authority that the event really only takes about four volunteers to stage and direct the parade. Courtney Harcourt stated that the parade is a sensitive event includes families and kids on bicycles and that it is not intended for campaigning or promoting businesses. Brant Frost asked how to grow the event and suggested a float contest might appeal to participants. Graylin Ward suggested adding a theme to the parade to interest participants.
7. The meeting was adjourned 8:38am.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, July 10, 2019
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall

