

Meeting Minutes
City of Newnan
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, June 17th, 2020
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall

Members Present: Ray Dubose, Keith Brady, Casey Smith, Martha Ann Parks, Jim Thomasson

Staff Present: Courtney Harcourt, Abigail Strickland,

Visitors Present: Laurel Huster, Barry Debrow

The meeting was called to order at 8:04am.

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed by the Authority. Casey Smith made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from March, April, and May meetings as presented to the Authority. Jim Thomasson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Courtney Harcourt presented the financial report and noted the following account balances:

- a. YTD:** Income: \$6236.38 & Expense: \$10,497.40
- b. BOZ Primary:** (March 2020) \$31,588.70, (April 2020) \$28,674.99, (May 2020) \$27,294.55
- c. BOZ MMI:** (March 2020) \$113,495.30, (April 2020) \$113,527.95, (May 2020) \$113, 559.52

Courtney Harcourt provided an update about ongoing projects. The new temporary ordinance that Newnan City Council approved on May 26th allowed business to extend their operations into public spaces by using pop-ups and parklets. This ordinance was intended to stimulate foot traffic within the downtown district. Businesses must go through an application and approval process. Courtney Harcourt noted that Main Street Newnan is assisting business owners by packaging the applications. The new temporary ordinance also allows open containers to be purchased from a licensed establishment within the district Monday-Saturday from 12 noon to 12 midnight. Casey Smith noted that the feedback from the community on the new temporary ordinance has been positive and the community has been responsible. Keith Brady agreed that the ordinance has been well received by the community and business owners and noted it is a good test. Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority that Newnan is the first community to implement a temporary ordinance of this kind.

Courtney Harcourt announced that Newnan has been officially accepted into the Georgia Placemaking Collaborative. The program has been delayed due to COVID-19 and will resume in January 2021.

Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority the Downtown Design Studio in Athens, GA is at risk for budget cuts. The Downtown Design Studio offers renderings at low cost to Georgia communities. Further information will be sent by email, if the Authority desires to reach out to the Commissioner.

Abigail Strickland provided an update on regulations for hosting community events from the State and the CDC. The Governor's Executive Order signed on June 11, 2020 increased gatherings to 50 people until June 30, 2020. The CDC considers large gatherings to be 250 people. The CDC also created risk categories for hosting events:

1. **Lowest risk:** Virtual-only activities, events, and gatherings.
2. **More risk:** Smaller outdoor and in-person gatherings in which individuals from different households remain spaced at least 6 feet apart, wear cloth face coverings, do not share objects, and come from the same local area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).
3. **Higher risk:** Medium-sized in-person gatherings that are adapted to allow individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart and with attendees coming from outside the local area.
4. **Highest risk:** Large in-person gatherings where it is difficult for individuals to remain spaced at least 6 feet apart and attendees travel from outside the local area.

Abigail Strickland provided an update regarding the upcoming Sunrise on the Square Road Race. Abigail Strickland spoke with race facilitator, Gary Jenkins, and discussed potential options for the race. The race could be held "virtually" by allowing runner to participate on their own and submit their times. Another option for a "virtual" race would be a No Sweat, Run, Run, where runners can choose to run or not and still donate to the cause. There is an option to host the race in person by releasing runners in groups based on previous race times to keep the runners socially distanced. Barry DeBrow provided an update from the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Atlanta. The Boys & Girls Club would only be able to participate in a "virtual" run due to regulations the organization recommended. Barry DeBrow noted if the race was held in person, the Boys & Girls Club may not be able to participate as the Non-Profit Partner. Keith Brady stated that this race is over a 40 year tradition and nothing has stopped the race to date and believes the race should still be hosted in person. Courtney Harcourt noted that there are many unknowns with a race including how to safely host packet pick up, water stations, award ceremony, and refreshments. Keith Brady recommended the Authority consider a combination race of a virtual and in person race. This would allow runners to participate, as they feel comfortable. Jim Thomasson agreed that hosting a combination race would be the best of both worlds. Keith Brady made a motion to host Sunrise on the Square Road Race on September 5th with an option for runners to participate virtually. Casey Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Courtney Harcourt provided the Manager's Report. Courtney Harcourt noted the businesses who have taken advantage of the new temporary ordinance. Redneck Gourmet and 714 have turned a parking space into a parklet with outdoor seating. Oink Joint, Golden's on the Square, Frios, Knife and Stone, Rock Salt Milk Bar, The Mad Mexican have taken advantage of sidewalk space for outdoor seating. Courtney Harcourt noted that primarily the restaurants have taken advantage of the new ordinance but plans to meet with retail based businesses on how to use the space.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45am.

Next Meeting:
July 8, 2020
8:00am
Council Chambers at City Hall

