

Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan Downtown Development Authority

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

9:30 am – Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Casey Smith, Martha Ann Parks, Keith Brady, Ray DuBose

Staff Present: Courtney Harcourt, Abigail Strickland, Hasco Craver

Visitors Present: Laurel Huster

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:37am.
2. Courtney Harcourt made a recommendation that the Authority approve the proposed Main Street Newnan Brick and Click Grant. The purpose of the Grant Program is to provide a matching grant to downtown businesses for creation or improvement of their online presence. The widespread use of innovative information technologies has drastically transformed the business environment. The traditional brick-and-mortar distribution systems have defied all odds to remain relevant in the supply chain, and e-commerce has become a complimentary transaction channel to ensure that they remain competitive with online stores. Having an online presence allows businesses to enhance accessibility, garner a wider audience, build relationships and consumer trust, and enables effortless marketing. Courtney Harcourt noted that the program could be initially funded through the Façade Grant program as applications for the grant have decreased. Courtney Harcourt noted that if the Main Street Newnan Brick and Click Grant program is successful that she sees a future for the program. Casey Smith Made a motion to approve the program and to fund the Main Street Newnan Brick and Click Grant. Martha Ann Parks seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Courtney Harcourt informed the Authority that she has spoken to members of the Main Street Community about when to resume community events. Abigail Strickland noted that the Executive Order from Governor Brian Kemp still states that “no business establishment, corporation, non-profit corporation, organization, or county or municipal government shall allow more than ten (10) persons to be gathered at a single location if such gathering requires person to stand or be seated within six (6) feet of any other person.” It further states, “the term “single location” shall be interpreted to mean a space where all persons gathered cannot maintain at least six (6) feet of distance between themselves and any other person”. Abigail Strickland noted that per this Executive Order that Main Street Newnan would not be able to host any events under the order is lifted. The Center of Disease Control also recommends not hosting community that have more than 250 in attendance. Abigail Strickland noted that the only event in which 250 or less is in attendance would be the Weekly Farmer’s Market. Abigail Strickland has been in touch with the Market Manager from the Coweta County Extension Office and they are currently working on a plan but it has not been decided yet. Courtney Harcourt stated that she optimistic about resuming events in June but it will be decided as more information comes available. Abigail Strickland noted that the next event is not until June, and that

we will continue to monitor information and share recommendations as it comes available.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46am.

Next Meeting:
TBD