

MEETING MINUTES

City of Newnan
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, February 9th, 2022
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall
25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room

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

Members Absent: Brant Frost

Staff Present: Abigail Strickland, Jesse Branch, Hasco Craver, Cleatus Phillips

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am.

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

Abigail Strickland presented the Financial Report to the Authority, noting the following account balances:

- a. BOZ Primary: \$17,588.41**
- b. BOZ MMI: \$108,846.35**
- c. YTD Income: \$10.61**
- d. YTD Expense: \$6,021.46**
 - Net Income: -\$6,010.85**

Abigail Strickland noted that since we have not held any events yet this year, we have little to no income. There should be an increase in income by the next meeting from the Market Day Annual Vendor fees.

Abigail Strickland reviewed the 2021-2023 Strategic Work Plan with the Authority. The Check-In included: the Branding of the Eastside District; the Downtown Designs Guidelines which are currently underway; the Welcome/Incentive Package that will be passed out to landlords and included on the Main Street website; the Outdoor Dining Guidelines which are included in the Design Guidelines; the Caldwell Tanks Redevelopment with the demolition on schedule to be completed by the first of May; the Explore Newnan-Coweta Partnership with Heather Daniel; the Improvement of Alleyways through ARPA funding with an update on the ARPA application for the Carnegie-Thompson Alley to follow at the next meeting; the Bike Coweta Partnership with the donation and forthcoming installation of two more bike racks in the district; and the LINC Collaborative Project. Ray Dubose asked how the Authority should go about incorporating the LINC Trailhead and the land on the east side of the train track into the district. Abigail Strickland noted that any parcel of land can be added to the district if it is suggested, voted on, and approved.

Keith Brady noted that the Robert Burns Weekend was a success, and that next July marks the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship with Ayr, Scotland. The Robert Burns Orchestra will be making their way to Newnan, Georgia next year. Keith Brady made a motion for staff to prepare a letter of suggestion to the City Council to fund new Sister City banners for next year's festivities. Jim Thomasson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on the possibility of a March Market Day. Based on the feedback from the vendors, a March Market Day would not be feasible for 2022; however, it is something to keep in mind for the 2023 event schedule.

Abigail Strickland updated the Authority on current Restaurant Week Findings, including feedback from a recent meeting that was held with the Downtown Restaurants. The purpose of Taste of Newnan was to bring the focus to the restaurants in downtown, and Main Street is looking to bring the event back to that original purpose. The proposed idea would be a ticketed event with a small taste and a pairing that would be similar to Taste of Newnan, but possibly inside like the Summer Wined-Up or the Oktoberfest. According to the restaurants, a good time of year for the event would be January-March during the slow season. Due to this response and the nature of the event, it may not be possible to accomplish until next year.

Abigail Strickland reminded the Authority that the Annual Meeting with the Downtown Merchants will be held on Friday, February 11th at 8:30am at Below the Neck. The Authority is welcome to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34am.

**Next Meeting:
Wednesday, March 9th, 2022
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