Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan
Downtown Development Authority
Wednesday, July 19, 2023
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
Staff Present: Jesse Branch, Hasco Craver, Cleatus Phillips
Visitors Present: Danny Beck, Chris Doane

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. Keith Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jesse Branch presented the Financial Report to the Authority, noting the following account balances:

i. BOZ primary: $26,107.06
ii. MMI: $81,453.17
iii. YTD Income: $36,512.10
iv. YTD Expense: $31,130.22
    1. Net Income: $5,381.89

Jesse Branch noted that the ticket sales from the Summer Wined-Up are reflected in the report.

Jesse Branch updated the Authority on the Wadsworth Alley project. Krebs Engineering has sent over the initial plans for the alleyway to the City. These plans are awaiting internal review by City staff.

Jesse Branch updated the Authority on the Carnegie-Thompson Alleyway project. Jesse noted that Facilities staff have been working hard on maintaining the HVAC units throughout all City buildings during the summer season, and that they will address the installation of the lights and art boxes after these projects have been completed.

Jesse Branch updated the Authority on the Strategic Plan. City staff met with the Georgia DCA staff on June 27th and 28th for a Strategic Planning Session. DCA staff should have the document completed in the coming weeks. Jesse thanked the Authority for their survey input.

Jesse Branch introduced Chris Doane with Bike Coweta. Chris Doane updated the Authority on their annual festival that occurs in downtown, the Rock and Road Festival. Chris noted that the 2023 event was a great success that saw around 3,000-5,000 visitors throughout the weekend, with 200 cyclists for the Criterium event that occurred in downtown. Because of its significant

local economic impact, specifically to the downtown district, Chris asked the Authority if they would be interested in becoming a partner for the festival. Chris noted that this would hopefully include promotion of the event on the Main Street Newnan calendar, notification and communication to downtown businesses, a heightened awareness campaign that may include training for those downtown businesses, and an overall synergy for the event occurring in downtown. Keith Brady noted that he thought it would be a great idea for Bike Coweta and Main Street Newnan to enter into an agreement for the event. Hasco Craver noted that City staff would work on the language for a potential partnership and bring that to the next meeting.

Jesse Branch updated the Authority on property developments within the district. Apollo's Steaks has opened at 33 ½ East Broad Street.

Jesse Branch updated the Authority on the Summer Wined-Up, 4th of July Parade, and Summer NewnaNights events. The Summer Wined-Up had a great turnout of 480 ticketholders. The past couple of years, the event has seen between 420 to 450 ticketholders show up for the event, so this was a significantly higher turnout. The 4th of July Parade was also a huge success with over 35 participants in the parade. This is the highest number of parade participants in recent years. The second Summer NewnaNights of the summer occurred last week on July 13th, and it was a great success. The last Summer NewnaNights of the summer will be occurring on Thursday, August 10th.

Jesse Branch noted that Truffles Vein Specialists will be holding their ribbon cutting on Thursday, July 27th from 12pm-1pm. This will be a great opportunity to see the updated building since it has been under construction for the last several years.

Lastly, Jesse Branch gave a copy of Newnan Coweta Magazine's 2023 "Best Of Coweta" edition to each of the Authority members. Jesse noted that 100% of the individuals/businesses on the cover are downtown businesses, and around 45% of all awards were won by businesses in the downtown district. Jesse noted that this is a testament to the businesses in downtown and the efforts of the Authority.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38am.

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, August 9, 2023
8:00 am – Newnan City Hall
25 Lagrange Street- Council Chamber Room