



LAWRENCEVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday August 26, 2013 / 7:00 PM
City Hall - GwMA Conference Room on 3rd Floor
70 South Clayton Street

MINUTES

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER** – Mike Reedy, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
- 2.0 QUORUM** - Mike Reedy, Chairman, called a quorum noting all members present (7).
- 3.0 MINUTES** – Mike Reedy, Chairman, called for review and approval of the July 22 meeting minutes.
Danny Gravitt requested that the treasury report be changed to reflect a payment of \$870 to MPT and motioned to approve. Parker Gann seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.
- 4.0 AGENDA** - Mike Reedy, Chairman called for a review and approval of the August 26 agenda. D.H. Malcolm motioned to approve. Meg Earhart seconded. The motion carried 7-0.
- 5.0 TREASURY REPORT** – Danny Gravitt, Treasurer, reported that the ending balance of the DDA's bank statement was \$50,831.58 as of August 26, 2013.
- 6.0 OLD BUSINESS** – Mike Reedy, Chairman
 - a. Economic Development Strategic Plan Update – Lisa Sherman shared that the City Council had approved the issuance of the RFP. It was now with her to set up the RFP in a format that could be issued and would do so in the coming weeks.
 - b. Main Street Application Update – Lisa Sherman reported that she had submitted the Main Street Application to DCA.
 - c. VIC Maintenance Update – Mike Reedy reported that as Chairman, he had put out a request for bid on pressure washing and painting the VIC. Bids should be coming back for review at next month's meeting. Proof of insurance was required in the bid request. Bids will be dispersed to the board via email for review and consensus to move forward.
- 7.0 NEW BUSINESS** – Mike Reedy, Chairman
- 8.0 OTHER BUSINESS** – Board Discussion
 - a. Mike Reedy brought up the suggestion that we institute a small purchases authority from the board members to handle requests for routine maintenance expenses with a cap of \$500 per occurrence. David Still motioned that the Chairman be given the powers to

approve maintenance costs and if the chairman is not available, the Vice Chair. D.H.

Malcolm seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

- b. Mike Reedy asked about Chip Wright's proposal for the Historic Preservation District proposal. Parker Gann reported that he was attempting to reach Chip to get an update and would follow up at the next meeting.
- c. Lisa Sherman shared information regarding the new hires of the city to the economic development department. She shared information about the LTTA Golden Hammer Awards on Thursday, August 29, at 6:30pm. She also addressed Danny Gravitt's request for case studies of other communities where strategic economic development plans had been implemented, presenting case studies from Nashville, Decatur AL, Gwinnett, Rome and Springfield, MO.

9.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Board Discussion

- a. Economic Development Strategic Plan Update
- b. MainStreet Application
- c. Vic Maintenance Update
- d. Parking Sign Update
- e. Redevelopment Forum – October 31

10.0 CITIZEN COMMENTS

- a. **Mayor's Comments** – The Lawn is underway. The medallions for the Heritage Trail are underway. There are several meetings happening right now. The City is meeting with the County on SPLOST coming up for vote this November. There are some projects that the City and County will do together. Tonight we also have the first meeting of the Gateway Committee – set up by Council to study the corridors in the city and determine priority and focus. The Mayor encouraged the board to ride through Craigdale Estates and Forest Hills to see the new curb & gutter improvements in those areas. A redevelopment group is going to Greenville, SC, to study best practices in redevelopment with the Partnership Gwinnett team. The Mayor shared that she was encouraged to see the temporary free parking sign downtown at the deck. The next Council meeting will be held Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00pm. Qualifying week is this week. PK Martin is not running. The Mayor met with Dr. Kaufman – new Chamber President – and is excited about Lawrenceville. The Mayor also has a meeting with the new interim president of GGC and Lunch with Alvin Wilbanks August 27 to discuss new school. Council did pass a new sign ordinance that could raise some issues with existing businesses. Downtown business had some great suggestions for ideas of new business to attract to the downtown.
- b. **Marie Beiser, council member**, shared comments back on Les Miserables and the what she has heard about the wonderful performance of the Theatre. D.H. noted that this show has attracted over 10,000 people to the downtown.

- c. **Parker Gann** noted that he spoke to a few individuals who had been to the Aurora Theatre and held season tickets. They all provided the feedback that we needed more higher-end restaurants in the downtown.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION – D.H. Malcolm motioned to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing a single real estate matter. Meg Earhart seconded the motion. 7-0.

- a. The board discussed a single matter of real estate in executive discussion. No votes were taken during the discussion.
- b. D.H. Malcolm motioned to exit executive session. Parker Gann seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT - Meg Earhart motioned to adjourn. David Still seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.