

DDA Minutes
September 19, 2018
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

DDA Members Present: Sarah Murphy Jamie Wyatt Clark Ninneman
Sam Burch Harlan Shirley Len Gough
Addison Lester

DDA Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Brian Wismer Julie Herbert Tom Lee

Guest: Sebastian Jackson

Call To Order:

Murphy called the September 19, 2018 meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Gough and seconded by Shirley to approve the August 30, 2018 meeting minutes.
Motion carried unanimously.

DCA Monthly Report:

Wisner gave the DCA Economic Activity/Local Development report for the month of August, 2018.

- Wisner stated that there were four events held in the month of August in the Downtown area, with approximately 4,000 attendees, and over 200 volunteer hours.
- Wisner stated that the \$1,250,000 in recent property sales reported does not include the Redwine House or Hannah's property. Wisner stated that the LEC renovation is valued at \$7,775,000.
- Wisner stated that in other developments, Carl Martin, with FFUMC is preparing a façade grant application as they are turning the playground area into public space. Wyatt asked

Wisner how much money is available for grants. Wisner stated that there is approximately \$10,000.

- Wisner stated that the Lester House prospect is still working on capital partners.
- Council and Staff will participate in a field trip to Roswell and Woodstock to see best practices in downtown development. Gibson and Wisner visited earlier in the year and felt it was a good idea for Council to see their implementations on Canton Street which is similar to N. Jeff Davis.
- Walton Communities have a downtown mixed-use development in Woodstock, and they have filed for rezoning of the Sams property.
- City Hall/Green Space – The City selected an architect and they are negotiating pricing for the contract. Goodwyn Mills Cawood. Construction RFQ is currently posted. The architect will get input from the city, design and then coordinate with construction firm.
- Burch asked about the gym and inquired as to an update. Wisner stated that they are still looking at different ways to repurpose the gym. Wisner met with someone to discuss removing plywood from floor and remove junk. Wisner also stated that they are on track to remediate the soil.
- Burch asked about the splash pad/water feature and if this was still in the plans. Wisner stated that there is a lot of interest in the splash pad/children's park and dog park. Wisner stated that the completion of this project is set for September 2020. The greenspace may happen in phases, depending on budget.

HDF Report:

- Lee gave the HDF report for the month of August and stated that attendance was a little less in August vs July.
- Lee stated that two “Dorsey” men were the focus of a speaking event at the HDF Museum on Saturday. Approximately 45 – 50 people were in the parlor and they did a live broadcast to Facebook. Lamar Dorsey came into listen and was asked questions on black history.
- Lee stated that they are planning a “singing” in November on the back porch. There is not enough room inside to host the event.
- Peter Bonner – Tara Gone With The Wind is doing a book signing and talk in January. Talmadge Plantation – Jonesboro, GA – Gone With the Wind Tour – Lee, Gilbert and staff will be touring the warehouse holding relics from historic house.
- Wisner reminded the board of their earlier discussion to consider a name change of Museum to make it more easily identifiable. That item is still outstanding.

Old Business:

Alleyway:

- Wisner showed the board updated plans that attempt to address concerns of the owners; legal representation from Butler Snow is ready to help with project; same firm who helped with the purchase of the school board property.
- The board discussed various options and ideas and prefer “Version 4” from the presentation. Wisner will move forward with legal discussions with stakeholders.

New Business:

None.

Adjourn:

Motion by Wyatt and seconded by Gough to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Waits