



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF DULUTH

3167 MAIN ST
DULUTH, GA 30096

DECEMBER 19, 2023, at 5:30PM

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Ken Odum, Chair	Fred Butler
Jim Graham, Vice Chair	Tammy Lopez
Richard Meehan, Secretary	Robb Watson
Slade Lail, Treasurer	

PRESENT:

Ken Odum, Chair	Slade Lail, Treasurer
Jim Graham, Vice Chair	Fred Butler
Richard Meehan, Secretary	Robb Watson

ABSENT:

Tammy Lopez

I. CALL TO ORDER

DDA Chair Ken Odum called the December 19, 2023, meeting to order at 5:34pm.

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meehan and seconded by Mr. Watson to approve the October 17, 2023; meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

IV. RED CLAY REPORT

Eddie Owen came forward and presented several items. In October there were 11 shows in total and 1,675 people in attendance and in November there were 12 shows in total with 1,559 people in total. To date, there have been 1,935 shows with 214,123 in attendance. Red Clay Theater showed "The Polar Express" sponsored by the City and promoted it on EOP sites as well as the city. The movie was very-well attended in part to the double promotion and the best movie night in attendance so far. The ice maker and refrigerator should be in this week. The new sound system should be in and installed by mid-March.

V. FINANCE REPORT

Ken Sakmar provided an update on the progress of the authority accounts.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. EYE CANDY ART FAÇADE GRANT REQUEST

Jessica Bianchi presented a façade grant for the back facing wall of Eye Candy Art Studio on West Lawrenceville Street. The total work cost is \$1700.00, the façade grant would be for \$850.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Meehan to approve the façade grant as presented. All voted in favor.

B. PLACER REPORT UPDATE

Jessica Bianchi updated the authority on how the downtown business and the city are utilizing placer.

C. WEBSITE UPDATE

Jessica Bianchi gave a presentation on the new website to the Downtown Development Authority.

D. TAYLOR PARK ART COMPLETION

Chris McGahee gave an update on the Taylor Park playable artwork – Giggle bark. The playable art sitework is set to be completed and open to play mid-January.

E. FROSTY FUN UPDATE

Chris McGahee presented an update on schedule for the Frosty Fun event.

F. THRIVE PARKING LOT UPDATE

Chris McGahee provided an update on the progress of the THRIVE parking lot project.

G. COHATCH UPDATE

Jessica Bianchi gave an update on the progress of the CoHatch project.

H. KNOX HOUSE UPDATE

Chris McGahee gave the group an update on the Knox House.

I. DISTRICT AT DULUTH UPDATE

Jessica Bianchi notified the group of a ribbon cutting at District at Duluth for "The Cream" that was held today.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PARSONS ALLEY STRING LIGHT INSTALLATION

Chris McGahee informed the group that once the shade sails in Parsons Alley come down for the season string lights will go up and those have been installed.

B. DDA BOARD

Chris McGahee wanted to let Slade Lail, Jim Graham, and Richard Meehan that their terms are up April of 2024. If they wish to continue, they must re-apply, these position will be re-appointed at the April council meeting.

C. BUFORD HIGHWAY ANALYSIS DISCUSSION

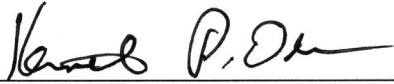
Chris McGahee gave the DDA an update on Buford Highway projects.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – NO MEETING NECESSARY

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Meeham to adjourn the regular session of the DDA. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.

The next regularly scheduled DDA meeting is January 16, 2024.



Chairman, Ken Odum



Secretary, Richard Meehan

KJ