



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF DULUTH

3167 MAIN ST
DULUTH, GA 30096

MARCH 19, 2024, at 5:30PM

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Ken Odum, Chair
Jim Graham, Vice Chair
Richard Meehan, Secretary
Slade Lail, Treasurer

Fred Butler
Tammy Lopez
Robb Watson

PRESENT:

Ken Odum, Chair
Jim Graham, Vice Chair
Richard Meehan, Secretary

Slade Lail, Treasurer
Tammy Lopez

ABSENT:

Fred Butler
Robb Watson

I. CALL TO ORDER

DDA Chair Ken Odum called the March 19, 2024, meeting to order at 5:33pm.

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meehan and seconded by Mr. Lail to approve the February 20, 2024; meeting minutes as presented. All voted in favor.

IV. RED CLAY REPORT

Eddie Owen came forward and presented several items. In February there were 13 shows in total and 1,600 people in attendance. To date, there have been 1,972 shows with 220,322 in attendance. The speaker system will be installed April 21st through the 25th and they will also do the truss inspection at the same time. The music school currently has 176 students and 17 teachers and is running Monday through Friday.

V. FINANCE REPORT

Ken Sakmar was not at the meeting to provide an update, will update the group at the next meeting.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DOWNTOWN BUSINESS UPDATE

Chris McGhee and Jessica Bianchi provided an update on the ongoing projects in the downtown area.

B. THRIVE UPDATE

Chris McGahee updated the authority on the Thrive project.

C. COHATCH TOUR

Chris McGahee took a tour of the new CoHatch facility and passed along the invitation to the authority to do the same. The DDA plans to have the April DDA meeting at the CoHatch building.

D. WEBSITE PROMOTION

Jessica Bianchi presented the group with promotional materials that are available at the downtown businesses.

E. PLACER AI DISCUSSION

Jessica Bianchi updated the group on a new Placer ai function that the city may want to use going forward.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. EOP CONTRACT RENEWAL

Chris McGahee reviewed all changes to the EOP contract renewal with the authority.

B. FILM PRODUCTION DOWNTOWN PROCEDURES

Jessica Bianchi discussed the recent filming experience with the DDA and the city's filming policy for the future.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – NO MEETING NECESSARY

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Meehan to adjourn the regular session of the DDA. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

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

Chairman, Ken Odum

Secretary, Richard Meehan

KJ