

CITY OF HOSCHTON
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021
CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:00PM
79 CITY SQUARE, HOSCHTON



WORK SESSION

SUMMARY

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER *BY CHAIR, SRI KUMAR at 6:02pm*

ROLL CALL:

Dr. Sri Kumar, Chair

Ms. Tracy Jordan, Co-Chair

Ms. Tracey Carden

Mr. Joe Vogt

Mr. Shawn

Also Present:

City Clerk, Jennifer Harrison

Absent:

Ms. Anita Boyd, Secretary

Mr. Ray Vaughn

AGENDA APPROVAL *motion by Jordan, second by Carden and all in favor*

OATH FOR ALL BOARD MEMBERS *except those that were absent given by Mayor Sell*

PRESENTATION BY MS. BETH EAVENSON & MS. TARA BRADSHAW of DCA (Department of Community Affairs)

Met with DCA economic development specialists and clarified on various programs/guidelines.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update - Farmer's Market (Tracey) Contacted interested vendors for farmer's market. Plan to kick off in August. Jennifer is guiding us.
Update - Historical collection of materials/photographs (Joe/Ray/Sri) *Ongoing: Collection of historical materials; assessing other short-, medium- and long-term projects; reaching out to DCA for funding opportunities.*
2. Update - Bank community development fund (Tracy)

Two local banks showed an initial interest to fund community infrastructure projects. Potentially, we will seek their fund to support various initiatives such as a welcome sign of City.

3. Update - Inventory of current businesses in city limits (Shawn)
Compiled inventory of local businesses. Will create a presentable chart to show gaps to attract new businesses.
4. Update - Bylaws/Mission/Vision/Purpose of DDA (Sri)
Suggestion to adopt bylaws of Winder DDA, given a similar city size. Will ask City Attorney, Abb to finalize it before your approval.
5. Update - Signage on entrance to City, next to the park (Sri/Tracy)
Compiling information from Jackson County Rec department and the City of Hoschton to have their blessing to move forward with new welcome signage in front of soccer field.
6. Update - Meeting with two property owners near the city hall (Anita)
Ms. Anita isn't present, so we will get a update at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss and identify potential three short-term projects with an estimated budget and timeline.
Finalizing details on community cleanup/beautification
2. Discuss to create a website (www.downtownhoschton.com) similar to Braselton or create a page within city's website similar to Winder for the time being. *Jennifer is in the process of finalizing this.*
3. Initiate an effort to create a high school volunteer/internship program from nearby high schools to work with DDA or city leaders. This will help to form a sense of community from locals. This program has been successful in other cities/counties.
Initiated high school volunteer/internship program to instill a sense of community and encourage parental involvement. Jennifer is helping us.
4. Discuss creating a map showing various neighborhoods (old/new/upcoming) to show the rooftops. This will be helpful to existing or new businesses. I will share some samples.
Compiled inventory of local businesses. Will create a presentable chart to show gaps to attract new businesses.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Jordan, second by Adams and all in favor