

CITY OF HOSCHTON
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021
CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:00PM
79 CITY SQUARE, HOSCHTON



REGULAR MEETING

SUMMARY

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER by *Sri Kumar at 6pm*

ROLL CALL:

Dr. Sri Kumar, Chair

Ms. Tracy Jordan, Co-Chair

Mr. Joe Vogt

Ms. Tracy Jordan

Absent:

Ms. Anita Boyd, Secretary

Mr. Shawn Adams

Mr. Ray Vaughn

Also present:

Jennifer Harrison, City Clerk

Media

OATH FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS *Mr. Ray Vaughn was not able to make meeting.*

AGENDA APPROVAL *Motion to change new business by Carden, second by Jordan and all in favor*

- 1. Vote on By-laws*
- 2. Discuss: Associate Members for DDA*
- 3. 2022 Goals/Budget*
- 4. Creating a BBQ Festival*

APPROVAL OF ~~JUNE 28, 2021, MINUTES~~ JULY 12, 2021 *Motion by Carden, Second by Vogt and all in favor.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *No Public Comments*

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update - Farmer's Market (Tracey C.)

- A good progress and visibility for Farmer's market. A big banner with dates and plastic bags with Farmer's market logo in place. Working on pricing to get a small water fountain for dogs to make dog friendly park, unique in our area.

2. Update - Historical collection of materials/photographs (Joe/Ray)

- NGRC potential fund for Historical Preservation Commission: Once City's historical commission finalizes bylaws, I will approach the NGRC to take the next step and get the ball rolling. Will touch base with Councilmember Tracy Carswell soon.
- Finalized the list of city's elders (~10) to take interview on their historical perspectives. The plan is to create a video interview and condense it to get a quick preview on our city and add it to City's new website.
- Collection of historical materials is ongoing. Hope to see some progress soon.
- Exploring to get a compact steam rail engine similar to Bryson City, NC, next to Hoschton Depot.

3. Update - Bank community development fund/Signage on entrance to City (Tracy J.)

- Still in communication with local banks to get seed fund. Hope to see some progress in a month or so.

4. Update - Inventory of businesses/graphical representation (Shawn)

- *Shawn was not present to give his report.*

5. Update - Bylaws of DDA, GIS/Governmental grants, UGA volunteer, DDA Logo (Sri)

- We will vote on By-laws tonight.
- Recruited a second volunteer from UGA. Both volunteers are helping on the signage project.
- NGRC potential fund by DNR on bike/Ped path is not well received for a couple of reasons: DNR is not keen on Golf cart path. The lead guy, John, is taking another job. I will follow up with Eva in a few weeks to see how to tweak it and move forward with funding agency.

6. Update - Meeting with two property owners near the city hall (Anita) *Anita was not present to give update*

NEW BUSINESS

1. ~~Vote on Farmer's Market to move forward~~

2. ~~Discussion—sign/plaque on historical buildings~~

3. ~~Discuss and Vote on Branding/Logo for DDA~~

1. ~~Vote on By-laws~~

- *Dr. Kumar has worked directly with City Attorney to create by-laws that would work well for our DDA.*

Motion by Vogt, second by Jordan and all in favor.

2. *Discuss: Associate Members for DDA*

- *Similar to Winder, created Associate members with no voting power to help with projects. Two potential candidates (banker, economic development background) showed an interest. Will work on the application, review and vote in the next meeting.*

3. *2022 Goals/Budget*

- *Discussed briefly on tentative goals for 2022 and budget. Will narrow down in coming weeks.*

4. *Creating a BBQ Festival*

- *This event will be sponsored by Georgia Barbeque Association (GBA). Any proceed can help the DDA to build a small fund to support for other community events. It is expected bring around 100 vendors that will help to bring a good traffic. The BBQ with music concert will also attract music lovers. The date is not finalized. I am thinking to align this event with a Cresswind's pickleball tournament. Then, we set the stage for success and also pave a way to integrate Twin Lakes with the downtown. Mr. John Carden will help lead this event.*

Motion to approve by Jordan, second by Carden and all in favor.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 6:52pm by Jordan, second by Carden and all in favor.