



## Downtown Dahlonega Minutes

November 03, 2022 8:30 AM

McCullough Council Chambers – City Hall

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### **Vision Statement**

Downtown Dahlonega will retain its role as the heart of the region and the center for community and economic development. It will have an inviting appearance, highlighted by historic architecture. It will enhance the civic, cultural, and economic vitality of the entire community.

### **Mission Statement**

The purpose of Downtown Dahlonega is to stimulate and sustain economic development in downtown area by encouraging cooperation and building leadership; by advancing a positive image of downtown and promoting it as an exciting place to live, shop, and invest; by sustaining and improving the appearance of downtown; and by strengthening and expanding the economic base of downtown.

### **Call to Order**

Chairperson Thrailkill called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

Motion made by Board Member Owens, Seconded by Board Member Logan.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Cordle, Board Member Owens, Board Member Huguley, Board Member Logan

### **Approval of Agenda**

Chairperson Thrailkill asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Board Member Owens, Seconded by Board Member Logan.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Cordle, Board Member Owens, Board Member Huguley, Board Member Logan

### **Approval of Minutes**

1. Downtown Dahlonega Special Called Meeting Minutes, October 20, 2022

Danna Foster, Assistant City Clerk

Chairperson Thrailkill asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Board Member Owens, Seconded by Vice Chair Cordle.

Voting Yea: Chair Thrailkill, Vice Chair Cordle, Board Member Owens, Board Member Huguley, Board Member Logan

### **Promotion**

- a. Promotions Work Plan Update

Skyler Alexander, Project Coordinator

Downtown Manager Alexander informed the DDA Board when Small Business Saturday will begin.

Downtown Manager Alexander and Project Coordinator Alexander presented the 2023 Program Signage to the DDA Board.

Downtown Manager Alexander advised the board of the Selfie Spot Trail Stickers. Project Coordinator Alexander stated that there are 10-12 selfie spots in the downtown area.

## **Design**

- a. Design Work Plan Update  
Ariel Alexander, Downtown Manager

## **Economic Vitality**

- a. Economic Vitality Work Plan Update  
Ariel Alexander, Downtown Manager

## **Organization**

- a. Organization Work Plan Update  
Ariel Alexander, Downtown Manager

Downtown Manager Alexander informed all members of the DDA Board that their DDA Retreat will be held on January 12, 2023, at the Holiday Inn. Manager Alexander notified board members that she reached out to the State of Economic Development Legend and sent an email invitation for business awarding at the Lumpkin County Parks and Recreational Center.

Manager Alexander provides a sidewalk update from Public Works Director on E. Main Street. She states that Director Buchanan has seen a vast improvement in Enota Street. The N. Grove Street project will be underway in 2023.

- b. Head House Retail Rental  
Mary Csukas, DDA Director

Director Csukas stated that the first floor of the Head House would be advertised as a rental. Vice Chairperson Cordle suggested a lease for the first year of operation for a minimum of 12 months. Director Csukas stated that a floor plan detail outlines the space. The DDA Board and Council are the directives for usage and staff allowed in the area.

Board Member Owens points out that the future company owner will have to make a small investment and pay for most of the equipment.

Ms. Csukas stated that she would need a vote to bring this topic forth to the council.

Board member Owens motions to take their idea to the city council for a 12-month lease with a property management company and a third party located at the head house. The contract would be funded by the DDA.

Motion made by Board Member Owens, Seconded by Board Member Logan.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Cordle, Board Member Owens, Board Member Huguley, Board Member Logan

- c. Financials

Mary Csukas, DDA Director

Director Csukas suggests they look at ways to organize funds for more significant projects that will occur in the future.

### **Partner Agencies**

1. City of Dahlonega
2. University of North Georgia

Downtown Manager Alexander stated that the DDA has been awarded a grant for their first mural funding.

3. Chamber of Commerce/Tourism

Downtown Manager Alexander notified the Downtown Dahlonega Board of a meeting with the tourism board the following week. Project Manager Alexander stated a meeting would occur with a company from Marietta for speaker location around the Dahlonega Public Square. There will be a discussion made on future projects. Director Csukas reminded the DDA Board that Chief Albert would be heavily involved with approved downtown speakers, thus being for safety and security.

4. Historic Preservation Commission
5. Planning & Zoning Commission
6. Downtown Dahlonega Business Association

DDBA Members thanked Skyler and Ariel for all their hard work during Halloween.

### **Adjourn**

Chairperson Thrailkill asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 A.M.

Motion made by Vice Chair Cordle, Seconded by Board Member Owens.

Voting Yea: Vice Chair Cordle, Board Member Owens, Board Member Huguley, Board Member Logan

7. Board Head House Site Visit