

Main Street Program / Downtown Development Authority Board Minutes

August 05, 2021 8:45 AM

The Corner Kitchen - 270 E Main Street Dahlonega

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 a.m.

PRESENT
Chairman Ryan Puckett
Vice Chairman Tony Owens
Board Member Ryan Reagin
Board Member Joel Cordle

ABSENT

Board Member DeEnna Walters Board Member Donna Logan Board Member Amy Thrailkill

Amendment to the Agenda

 Motion made by Vice Chairman Owens to amend the agenda to include discussion about upcoming Main Street/DDA Training. Seconded by Board Member Cordle.
 Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

Meeting Minutes

1. Main Street/DDA Board July Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Board Member Cordle to approve minutes as written. Seconded by Board Member Reagin.

Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

2. Special Called Meeting July 8, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Board Member Cordle to approve minutes as written. Seconded by Vice Chairman Owens.

Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

Continuing Business

- 3. DDA Draft Budget FY2022 Bill Schmid, City Manager
 - The Main Street/DDA Board discussed the numbers within in the budget.

Motion to approve the DDA Draft Budget FY2022 Motion made by Board Member Cordle, Seconded by Board Member Reagin.

Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

- 4. Fund Balance Allison Martin, Finance Director
 - City Manager Bill Schmid presented his proposals for capital purchases and their timelines and asked for direction from the board.
 - Chairman Ryan Puckett and the board discussed the need for sidewalk extensions and pedestrian improvements.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Owens to move forward with purchasing a message board and security camera system for Downtown Dahlonega. Seconded by Board Member Cordle. Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

- 5. DDA Executive Director Qualifications Ryan Puckett, Main Street/DDA Chairman
 - The board discussed the community surveys and how the results will help point them in the right direction for the DDA Executive Director Qualifications, the hiring timeline, and the job summary.
 - Mr. Puckett suggested appointing one or two members from each body to discuss the job qualifications further. Board Member Owens, Board Member Reagin, and Chairman Puckett all volunteered.

New Business

- 6. 147 Park Street Hotel Proposal Discussion Ryan Puckett, Main Street/DDA Chairman
 - Mr. Schmid gave some background information of the property and the proposal brought to the board from Mr. Patel & Mr. Pamplin.
 - Joe and Ellen Mirakovits expressed their opinions as engaged community members, DDBA (Dahlonega Downtown Business Association) representatives, and hospitality business owners that the community they are representing does not want a hotel on said property and believes there should be something that gives the locals and tourists something to do in downtown Dahlonega.
 - The board discussed the proposal and thanked Mr. Patel & Mr. Pamplin for their presentation and interest in the property but decided it was not the correct location for this hotel proposal.

Motion to not support the hotel proposal as written was made by Board Member Reagin, Seconded by Vice Chairman Owens.

Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

 Mr. Puckett presented the 147 North Park Street Letter containing the Main Street/DDA board's guidance and parameters for the property.

Motion to approve the DDA Support Letter as written was made by Vice Chairman Owens, Seconded by Board Member Cordle.

Voting Yea: Vice Chairman Owens, Board Member Reagin, Board Member Cordle.

- 7. DDA/Main Street By-Laws Ryan Puckett, Main Street/DDA Chairman
 - Board Member Cordle has been working on the bylaws with help from the state for the needs of the Main Street/DDA Board.

Main Street / DDA Monthly Report

- 8. May Main Street/DDA Financials Bill Schmid, City Manager
 - There was no discussion.
- 9. June Main Street/DDA Financials Bill Schmid, City Manager
 - There was no discussion.

Main Street / DDA Training

Mr. Cordle reminded the board of the upcoming Main Street/DDA training.

Announcements from Partner Agencies

- A. City of Dahlonega
 - Mr. Schmid updated the board on happenings in city hall.
 - Main Street/DDA Staff Member, Ariel Alexander, updated the board on Skyler & Ariel's training as well as informed the board on what staff has been working on.
 - Mr. Cordle gave an overview of the results from the community survey.

- B. Chamber of Commerce/Tourism Office
 - Director of Tourism, Sam McDuffie, updated the board on the upcoming campaigns with UNG and requested to be on next month's agenda to make a presentation on "Miners on Main."
- C. Dahlonega Downtown Business Association
 - President of the DDBA, Ellen Mirakovits, updated the board on the upcoming back to school event with UNG and requested information about the upcoming Halloween events.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.