



## **Downtown Development Authority**

### **MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 12, 2020**

**8:00 AM**

**City Hall**

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 am.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **PRESENT**

Chairman Lisa Anderson

Vice Chair Meredith Malcom

Board Member Whit Holder

Board Member Charles Sanders

City Council Representative Ross Bradley

Board Member Chris Collin

##### **ABSENT**

Secretary Andrea Gray

Board Member Wesley Sisk

##### **CITY STAFF**

Sadie Krawczyk

Leigh Ann Walker

##### **COUNTY STAFF**

Patrice Broughton

#### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

DDA February Minutes

Approved - Motion made by City Council Representative Bradley, Seconded by Board Member Sanders.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley, Board Member Collin

## **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DDA January Financials

Approved - Motion made by City Council Representative Bradley, Seconded by Vice Chair Malcom.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley, Board Member Collin

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

### **CITY UPDATE**

City Council approved funding for traffic calming measures for Church Street and Davis Street; Pilot Park redevelopment is out for bid at this time; Childers stream construction to begin as weather permits; land lease to construct 17 new hangers at the airport has been executed; improvements to the streetscape along Midland and the Peters and Fosters parking area have been approved to create more public parking and walkability downtown.

### **COUNTY UPDATE**

No update.

## **COMMUNITY WORK PLAN &REPORTS**

### **Existing Environment**

New trash cans are coming in and being put out downtown replacing the older receptacles.

### **Infill Development**

the economic development committee met to discuss potential projects and the following were identified:

- acquiring the 2 parcels that are not city owned within the Wayne Street and Spring Street block behind the police station
- partnering with the city to encourage the public-private partnership to redesign the private parking lots, add curb and gutter, sidewalks, and street trees along Wayne Street between Highland and Spring and to include the redevelopment of the alleyway as the main pedestrian connection from Broad Street to this area.
- reach to owner to see if we could acquire and redevelop the parcel at 136 W. Spring Street

## **Entertainment Draws**

two new events will be occurring in March - the Spring Fling on the town green in partnership with Graystone Church and the Look Up Phone-free event on the courthouse lawn and Court Street in partnership with the Walton Youth Advocacy Board

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Events**

Car Show and MCDS 5K are this weekend; Food Truck Friday and Dockdogs planned for 4/17,18, & 19.

### **Downtown Design**

No update

### **Farmers Market**

May 9th will be opening day in conjunction with the Monroe Children's Book Festival; this year we will also have an online market for vendors/customers called Monroe Locally Grown; Farm to Table tickets sold out within 18 hours.

The board proposed thinking about another Farm to Table type food event such as a low country boil in the fall. Staff will take this idea to the FTT planning committee for discussion.

## **FUNDING**

### **SPONSORSHIP**

Sponsorship is over \$50,000 in commitments at this point.

### **FACADE GRANTS**

116 W. Spring Street

Approved for full amount - Motion made by Board Member Holder, Seconded by City Council Representative Bradley.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley, Board Member Collin

### **COMMUNITY EVENT GRANTS**

Monroe Cotton Mills - Food Truck Friday

Approved for full amount - Motion made by City Council Representative Bradley, Seconded by Board Member Holder.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley, Board Member Collin

## **NEW BUSINESS**

GCF Resolution - 2nd Floor, LLC

Approved - Motion made by Board Member Sanders, Seconded by City Council Representative Bradley.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley

Voting Abstaining: Board Member Collin who recused himself from the discussion and action taken.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next meeting scheduled, March 9th, at 8:00 am at Monroe City Hall.

Ms. Malcom shared with the board that Synovus bank has created a new loan program specifically for downtown development projects with up to 90% financing, a special rate program, up to \$1,000,000 loan amount. She will provide further details and marketing materials when they are ready for distribution to the public.

## **ADJOURN**

Motion made by City Council Representative Bradley, Seconded by Vice Chair Malcom.

Voting Yea: Chairman Anderson, Vice Chair Malcom, Board Member Holder, Board Member Sanders, City Council Representative Bradley, Board Member Collin