

**Athens Downtown Development Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, September 21, 2017, 3:00PM (Rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma)  
ADDA Office  
250 W. Broad Street  
Suite 108**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Ford, David Lynn, Mike Hamby, Lori Paluck, Mayor Denson, Katrina Evans, Jim Warnes, Richie Knight, Shawn Butcher.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chuck Horton, Christi Christian, Elise LeQuire, Jennifer Zwirn, Jeremiah Cook.

1. Approval of Minutes- Mayor Denson motioned and was seconded by Katrina Evans to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2017, regular meeting. Motion carried.
2. Public Input- none
3. Community Reports

**DABA-** Shawn Butcher presented a memorandum on behalf of DABA which presented three possible options for the future of the relationship between DABA and ADDA and the future management of the Gift Certificate Program. Option one relinquished the gift certificate program to ADDA in exchange for a yearly stipend to fund DABA activities and business expenses. Option two would be to maintain the existing arrangement between ADDA and DABA based on the 1995 contract. Option three would be to discontinue the 1995 contract and have DABA partner with another organization for administrative assistance. Much discussion was held about the three options with the Board concurring that Option two was not feasible. The Board was not also comfortable with the idea of a 20-year contract, and they asked DABA to prepare a proposed budget reflecting the need for the \$20,000 requested annual stipend amount. DABA will discuss the issue further at their next Board meeting and present a final proposal to be voted on by the ADDA Board at the October meeting.

**CVB-** Jeremiah Cook updated the Board on upcoming conferences. The Georgia Association of Curriculum and Instructional Supervisors will be in town September 26-29 with 800-1000 attendees. Partner Software will be in town on October 3, 2017 with about 450 attendees.

**Chamber-** Richie Knight gave the Chamber update. The Chamber's mid-year event is scheduled for September 28, 2017, at 6:00 PM, at the Botanical Gardens. There was a chamber ribbon cutting at the Wing Zone.



4. Directors' Report

Planning and Outreach

- A. Downtown TSPLOST Project- David Lynn is meeting with the TSPLOST group on October 3, 2017 to discuss involvement of the ADDA in the planning of the Clayton streetscape project. Katrina Evans asked about the SPLOST project involving the Costa building. The plans for that building have yet to be determined.
- B. Landscaping City Hall Beds- ADDA is partnering with the State Botanical Gardens and the Clarke County Landscaping Department to beautify the intersection of College and Washington streets by City Hall. The State Botanical Gardens wants to include these beds as part of their Urban Pollinators Program. The project should begin planting in October and will be maintained by the Botanical Gardens crew. The ADDA had a water meter installed to keep the beds hydrated.
- C. Parking Day- ADDA participated with the College of Environmental Design for this year's Parking Day. Eight individual parking spaces in College Square were utilized and transformed into temporary green spaces to highlight land use. The spaces were shielded by bamboo, and the group brought in grass and set up games and activities in the space for the day. There is already interest from other local groups to participate in next year's Parking Day. Mayor Denson asked about the game day parking in the Water Department lot. Prestige Parking manages that lot on game days. There was discussion of other possibly illicit parking practices occurring in the downtown area on game days and the need to research which parking lots are legitimately managed.

Business Services

- D. Façade Grant- Jay Payne submitted a façade grant application for his renovation of the old "Good Dirt" building on Thomas Street. The requested amount will be the maximum \$10,000 grant. The grant will be for the replacement of the building's windows and garage doors. Mike Hamby motioned, and Richie Knight seconded to approve the request for the façade grant. Katrina Evans recused herself from the vote, and the motion carried.
- E. Interior Renovation Grant Program- The ADDA is looking into offering a grant similar to the Façade Grant in structure, but applying to business owners who need renovations for the interior of their businesses. A set of proposed guidelines were presented to the Board for discussion. The staff will continue to develop the guidelines and application process.
- F. Main Street Membership- The ADDA reduced their Main Street membership to the affiliate level in March of last year with the intention to reevaluate membership status in 2017. The ADDA will begin the monthly reporting process to prepare to reapply for the Classic level membership in a few months. The Classic level offers a few more benefits but does require the monthly reports and some annual training. Mike Hamby requested updates or reports on the trainings that staff attends.

5. Unfinished Business- None



6. New Business- Richie Knight commented on the success of the Pride festival downtown, and stated it had a very family-friendly atmosphere. The Chic-fil-A food truck also seems to be successful. Richie is organizing a Tech Crawl on November 1, 2017 beginning at RoundSphere at 5:00 and visiting three other offices. This will be a recruitment tool highlighting available office space and targeting students and young professionals. Richie is working on a flyer for the event.
7. Financial Report- ADDA and DAPS- Onstreet parking is up due to the rate increase. The Board commented on how good the College Avenue deck stairwell looks.
8. Suggested topics for next month's meeting- DABA contract and gift certificates.
9. Executive Session- The Board moved into executive session to discuss a legal matter from 4:53-4:57. Once out of executive session, Richie Knight motioned to terminate the contracted relationship with T2 effective February 28, 2018, and authorize the Directors to pay the amounts due through date of termination. Mayor Denson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
10. Adjournment- Katrina Evans motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Richie Knight. The Board adjourned at 4:58.



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Lori Paluck, Board Chair

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Linda Ford, Director of Business Services



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David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach