

**Athens Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, May 9, 2019, 2:00 PM
ADDA Office
250 W. Broad Street, Suite 108
Athens, Georgia**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Ford, David Lynn, Lori Paluck, Katrina Evans, Drew Dekle, Whit Richardson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Sowell, Christi Christian, Elise LeQuire, Chuck Horton, Jeremiah Cook, Devin Clower.

1. Approval of Minutes – Whit Richardson motioned and was seconded by Drew Dekle to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2019, regular meeting. Motion carried.

2. Public Input- Devin Clower announced that Frontier storefront will be closing on May 15th, but will continue to sell products online.

3. Community Reports-

CVB- Mock Trial will be at the Classic Center May 16-19 bringing 1200 visitors to Athens. Gwinnett County Board of Education will be in town June 3-7, and the Methodist Convention returns June 10-12. The Athens Burger Week event was cancelled due to lack of participants.

The Chamber of Commerce- Whit Richardson reported that David Bradley, Chamber President, would like to see more relaxed open container rules for events like Twilight, rather than the beer gardens that are used now. This is already in committee with the Mayor and Commission. Jo Sullivan has taken another position and is no longer with the Chamber.

DABA- no report

4. Directors' Report
Planning and Outreach

- A. **Community Enhancement Program (CEP)** - For the first time since the program began in 1997, the budget for the program has been increased from \$60,000 to \$90,000 for FY20. The increase will not be official until June 4th, and the intent of the increase, whether to increase the budget for each event or the number of events, is unknown at this time, so David Lynn recommended tabling the discussion of CEP until June. Katrina Evans motioned to table the

CEP discussion until the June meeting, and she was seconded by Drew Dekle. Motion carried.

- B. **Resolution regarding Tax Levy & Assessment for Year 2020-** Every year, the ADDA must make a formal request to the Mayor and Commission, in the form of a Resolution, to collect the one mil tax from all property within the ADDA boundary. Drew Dekle motioned to approve the Resolution regarding the tax levy and assessment for FY20, and he was seconded by Whit Richardson. Motion carried.
- C. **Clayton Street Update** – The project was supposed to resume in January, but was halted due to utility conflicts. We anticipated it would begin again in June, but we were just informed it would start again on a limited basis on May 13th by digging up Wall Street completely to replace the storm water pipes. Once Wall Street is finished, the crews will move to the south side of the College Avenue and Clayton Street intersection. Some trees will be removed next to the Wells Fargo Bank. Applications are being accepted for a Construction Manager at Risk position. Katrina Evans asked about installing the bollards during this phase of construction. No definite information is available.

Business Services

- D. **Four Athens/Athensmade Update-** Four Athens, which receives rent subsidy from ADDA, has announced a merger with Athensmade. ADDA will continue to monitor the situation, and when the merger is finalized, the decision to continue or end the subsidy will come back to the Board.
- E. **Request for Funding for Outreach Position-** Mayor Girtz has asked the ADDA for \$25,000 to go toward his initiative for an outreach position to help the homeless. At least two-thirds of the outreach will occur downtown. Katrina Evans motioned to support the outreach position with \$25,000, and she was seconded by Drew Dekle. Motion carried.
- F. **FY20 ADDA Budget-** Board members were given a preview of the FY20 budget which will be voted on next month.

5. Unfinished Business- Drew Dekle still working on valet parking interests. He has talked to about six business owners about participating.


6. New Business- Barry Buck and Drew Dekle are having issues with people getting access to their roof and causing damage. The police can't do anything unless the trespassers are caught in the act. The downtown police force is understaffed at this time. The Board discussed ideas for supplemental security or patrols downtown. ADDA received a \$1500 grant from the Heritage Garden Club for flower beds.

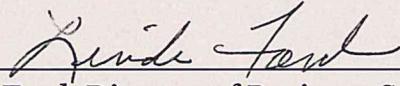
7. Financial Report- The \$4,000,000 financial goal set for the parking system may not be reached. ADDA will still receive the anticipated management fee because our expenses were less than budgeted.

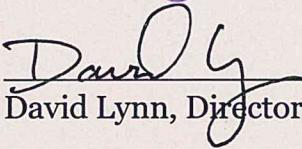
8. Suggested agenda topics for following month's meeting – Police force, CEP

9. Executive session- none

10. Adjourn- Katrina Evans motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Drew Dekle. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:49.



Lori Paluck, Board Chair

Linda Ford, Director of Business Services

David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach