

**Athens Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 14, 2022
2:00pm-4:00pm
Gameday Building Conference Room**

REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Ford, David Lynn, Jason Leonard, Mike Hamby, Drew Dekle, and David Bradley

OTHERS PRESENT: Rachel Swartz

1. **Approval of Minutes** – David Bradley motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting Mike Hamby seconded. Motion approved.
2. **Public Input** – none
3. **Community Reports**
 - **CVB** – none
 - **Chamber** – David Bradley announced that the Chamber will be sponsoring a candidate forum for Mayor and Commissioner candidates. Tim Bryant will be the moderator and each candidate will answer questions for 7 minutes. Also, August 31-September 2, will be a visit to Tuscaloosa and Birmingham. This trip will focus on work-force development, riverfront development, and response to homelessness.
 - **DABA** – none
4. **Directors' Report**

Planning and Outreach

- A. **Tax Levy and Assessment for the Year 2022** – The ADDA needs to recommend a millage rate levy to the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government. Mike Hamby motioned to adopt the following resolution:

Under authority of the Act creating the Athens Downtown Development Authority (Georgia Laws 1977 Session, 3533) the Authority hereby recommends levy and assessment for the year 2022 on the real property in the downtown Athens area as defined in said Act at a tax of one (1) mill upon the value of said real estate as fixed by the Tax Digest of Athens-Clarke County.

Drew Dekle seconded. The resolution was approved.

Business Services

- B. **Athens African American Heritage Pathway Update**– the ADDA received an AARP grant of \$9300 to plan and implement the Athens African American Heritage Pathway. A walking tour will connect the Morton Theatre and the Ware-Lyndon House and will feature the Ware-Lyndon House, The Bottoms, First AME Church, Hot Corner, and The Morton Building. AARP will film a short documentary of the project in June.
- C. **FY23 Preliminary Budget**– Linda Ford discussed the preliminary FY23 ADDA budget. The budget will not be voted on until after the Mayor and Commission budget is passed. The ADDA mil tax revenue is estimated to be \$356,000, which is an increase from previous years. However, parking revenue has decreased and most likely will not match revenues prior to the pandemic and construction. Drew Dekle added that he would like to see funds for a Downtown Ambassador Program added to the budget. The directors will be meeting with the CVB later in the month to discuss a partnership for this program.

- 6. **Financial Report** – Linda Ford presented the March parking summary to the board.
- 7. **Suggested Topics for following month’s meeting** –
- 8. **Adjourn** – Mike Hamby motioned to adjourn, and Drew Dekle seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 12 at 2:00pm. Location TBD.

Jason Leonard, Board Chair

Linda Ford, Director of Business Services

David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach