

**Athens Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, September 20, 2021
2:00pm – 4:00pm
Athens-Clarke County City Hall, Room 103**

REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Ford, David Lynn, Jason Leonard, Mike Hamby, Kelly Girtz, Dexter Weaver, BJ Hardy, and Drew Dekle

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Sowell, Rachel Swartz, Jill Furman, Sanni Baumgärtner, and Cat Babon

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Drew Dekle motioned to approve the minutes from August 20, 2021. Dexter Weaver seconded. Motion approved.

2. **Public Input** – Jill Furman (Margo’s Metaphysical), Sanni Baumgärtner (Community), and Cat Babon (Cillies) spoke to the Board regarding concerns surrounding the disruption of the Clayton Street constructions project. Jill Furman would like to see promotions and free parking to encourage people to still come shop downtown.

3. **Community Reports**

- **CVB** – Linda Ford reported that Athens was named the host of the 2022 Georgia Tourism Conference. Also coming soon will be a Brewery Tour of all the Athens local breweries.
- **Chamber** – none
- **DABA** – none

4. **Directors’ Report**

Planning and Outreach

A. College Square Pedestrian Plaza TSPLOST proposal – David Lynn will be presenting a College Square Improvement Project to the TSPLOST Committee on September 29, 2021. This project will address flexible use, pavement textual changes, overhead lighting, and more seating. The project is estimated to cost \$8mil and will require an extensive public input process. Mike Hamby motioned to authorize Director David Lynn to

Speak on behalf of the ADDA Board to the TSPLOST Committee and Drew Dekle seconded. Motion passed.

Business Services

- B. Website Redesign Proposal** – Linda Ford presented the board with a new website proposal from Kaptiv8. The ADDA's current website was built by a company that is now out of business. Kaptiv8 estimates that the new website would take 12 weeks to complete and cost about \$18,500. Drew Dekle made a motion to authorize the Directors to execute all necessary documents to engage Kaptiv8 for the website redesign. Dexter Weaver seconded. Motion approved.
- C. Nuçi's Space Façade Grant Application** – The Façade Grant Committee reviewed a Façade Grant application from Nuçi's Space requesting \$10,000 in matching funds for renovation at Nuçi's Space at 396 Oconee Street. The Committee recommends approval for the grant. Mike Hamby motioned to approve the Façade Grant for Nuçi's Space matching up to \$10,000. Kelly Girtz seconded. Motion approved.
- D. Sponsorship of film short** – Jay Preston and Stephanie Raines are working on a short feature film featuring a metal artist, Harold Rittenberry and asked for the ADDA to sponsor this project. Mike Hamby motioned that the ADDA support this project with a \$1000.00 sponsorship. Kelly Girtz seconded. Motion passed.
5. **Old Business** – BJ Hamby expressed concern over the bike lanes on Dougherty Street. Bikers are using the bike lanes and creating their own lane causing much confusion.
 6. **New Business** – Kelly Girtz talked to the board about the possibility of a parking discount through the end of the Clayton St construction. The directors will bring a suggested program forward at the next board meeting.
 7. **Financial Report** – The parking revenue is up from that same time last year.
 8. **Suggest agenda topics for following month's meeting** – The next meeting will be at the beginning of the Board Retreat.
 9. **Executive Session** – Mike Hamby motioned to enter executive session and Kelly Girtz seconded at 2:35pm. Motion approved.

At 2:50pm, Drew Dekle motioned to return to regular board meeting session and Mike Hamby seconded. Motion approved.

10. **Adjourn** – Drew Dekle motioned to adjourn, and Mike Hamby seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 4 at 9:00am a Community Room.

Jason Leonard, Board Chair

Linda Ford, Director of Business Services

David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach