

**Athens Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday May 11, 2023
2:00pm-4:00pm
Gameday Conference Room
250 W Broad St**

REGULAR MEETING

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Sowell, Rachel Swartz, Susan Monteverde, Allison Wright, Carter Greene, Robert Chester, Keith Sanders, and Kirby Glaze

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Mike Hamby motioned to approve the minutes from the April 2023 Board Meeting and David Bradley seconded. Motion passed.

2. **Public Input** – none

3. **Community Reports**

- **CVB** - none
- **Chamber** – David Bradley reported that the chamber is still focusing on workforce development.
- **DABA** – none

Carter Green from BOS Security gave a presentation on VirtuGuard, an AI security system and how they can enhance the security of the parking decks.

4. **Directors' Reports**

Planning and Outreach

- A. Judicial Center Parking Schematics** – Kirby Glaze gave a presentation to the board and guests on a new Judicial Center Concept that would include a parking deck, retail, and office space. (Schematic attached to minutes)
- B. College Square Update** - The directors have met with representatives of Smith Planning Group (SPG) to discuss the possibility of an above-ground refurbishment of College Square that could be accomplished with ADDA resources. David Lynn explained that College Square is included as an approved project within the current TSPLOST projects and funded at \$500,000. SPG developed a few concepts that were provided to the board for discussion.

Business Services

- C. Janey Mae Cooley Façade Grant** – Sandra Baumgaertner, owner of Community (260 N. Jackson St.), is asking for funds to repair a broken window. The grant request is for a match of \$542.50. Mike Hamby motioned to approve the request and Drew Dekle seconded. Motion passed.
- D. Marketing Grant-** Peggy James, from Wall & Broad (345 E. Broad St), is asking a matching grant amount of \$4950.00 for website enhancements, SEO, monthly monitoring of website ROI, and advertising. Mike Hamby motioned to approve the request and Drew Dekle seconded. Motion passed.
- E. Business Reach Grant** – Susuan Timlin, of Pauley’s Crepe Bar (134 E Clayton Street), is asking for matching funds to replace the fire suppression system. Mike Hamby motioned to approve the grant up to \$7000.00. Drew Dekle seconded. Motion passed.
- F. Marketing Grant** – Cody Nichelson, from Fully Financial, LLC (244 E Washington St), submitted a revised request for the grant approved last month. The new request is for a matching grant of \$4800.00 that includes funds for brand identity, photography, and website design and development. This will replace the grant that he applied for last month. Mike Hamby motioned to approve the request and David Bradley seconded. Motion passed.

6. Financial Report – Linda Ford reported that parking revenue was a little over \$300,000 for the month of April 2023.

7. Suggested Topics for following month’s meeting – Drew Dekle wants to see the meter height lowered.

8. Adjourn – Kelly Girtz motioned to adjourn the meeting and Drew Dekle seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm.

Jason Leonard, Board Chair

Linda Ford, Director of Business Services

David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach