

Athens Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting and Retreat
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Gameday Conference Room

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Sowell, Rachel Swartz, Captain Radford, John Holloman, and Summer Curran

1. Approval of Minutes – Kelly Girtz motioned to approve the minutes from the March 2024 ADDA Board Meeting and Jeff Bishop seconded. Motion passed.

2. Public Input – none

3. Community Reports

- **CVB** - none
- **Chamber** - none

4. Directors' Report

Planning and Outreach

- A. **Crisis Intervention Team** – Members of the Crisis Intervention team answered questions regarding how to address public mental health crisis/behaviors. Captain Radford stated that there are currently 30 officers in training which will bring the police force close to being fully staffed. The board discussed the need for more police staffing downtown.
- B. **Community Events Program (CEP) Recommendation** – Applications for the FY24/25 CEP funds were given to the board for review. Final recommendations will be given once the Mayor and Commission set the program budget.
- C. **Broad Street 15 Minute Parking** – Delivery trucks started using the fire lanes at either end of College Square as a loading zone. Staff proposed to add a few 15-minute metered spaces to help with the congestion. Transportation and Public Works (TPW) will be engaged to determine the best placement for these metered spaces.

Business Services

D. **ADDA FY25 Budget** – Linda Ford shared a preliminary budget for the ADDA. It is expected to see an increase in property tax revenue for FY25. Additional funding is typically applied to new initiatives and programing.

E. **Main Street Assessment Report** – The ADDA had its annual assessment from Georgia Main Street Association and was awarded accreditation at the GEMS (Georgia Exceptional Main Street) level. GEMS designated cities have demonstrated an exceptionally positive impact in their communities as measured by the Monthly Reporting and the Annual Assessment Process. There are less than 20 communities in Georgia that are recognized at this level.

5. Financial Report– Downtown Parking current year-to-date revenue is about \$400K more than last year.

7. Suggested agenda topics for following month’s meeting – mural for College Deck and ask Jeremy Smith to attend the next meeting.

8. Executive Session - None

9. Adjourn– Mike Hamby motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jeff Bishop seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm.

Jason Leonard, Board Chair

Linda Ford, Director of Business Services

David Lynn, Director of Planning and Outreach