

MINUTES
CITY OF HOGANSVILLE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MARCH 27, 2018

MEETING LOCATION: City Hall, Hogansville, Georgia

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Jason Stewart.

Board Members in attendance:

- Jason Stewart, Chairman
- Jake Ayers
- Allan Boyer
- Vickie Brown
- John McKibben
- Kandis Strickland

Board Members Absent:

- Brenda Pritchett Rhodes

Press in Attendance:

- Daniel Evans, LaGrange Daily News

Residents/Boosters/Observers Identified in Attendance:

- Katherine Moore, Georgia Conservancy, Inc.
- Marla Dannenbring, Promotions Committee Member
- Gayle Devereaux, Tourism Committee Member
- Anahata Iradah, Citizen

AGENDA

- On a motion by Allan Boyer and seconded by Vickie Brown, the Board unanimously approved the Agenda as presented.

MINUTES

- On a motion by Allan Boyer and seconded by Vickie Brown, the Board unanimously approved the February 27, 2018 meeting minutes.

FINANCE REPORT

- John McKibben reported little activity. He noted \$12,000 is due to complete the Downtown Master Plan payment. On a motion by Allan Boyer and seconded by Vickie Brown, the Board unanimously approved the Finance Report.

OLD BUSINESS -

- Final Presentation of Downtown Master Plan – Katherine Moore of the Georgia Conservancy presented the final product. Katherine stated that they would be able to provide work sessions to assist in moving forward with the “task items” associated with the plan. She urged that the City proceed with policy and zoning changes needed to implement the plan. The Georgia Conservancy will also assist Lynne Miller in the application for the Rural Revitalization Designation. John McKibben expressed a concern on the elimination of parking spaces if the plan is developed to create a large park on Main Street. Katherine responded that a parking study would be done and that issue would be addressed when the City decides to develop the park.

NEW BUSINESS

- Vote on Adoption of Downtown Master Plan. On a motion made by Allan Boyer and seconded by Vickie, four voted to approve the plan with Strickland abstaining.
- Hogansville Regional Arts Association. On behalf of the Association, Gayle Devereaux expressed their commitment to get behind the Master Plan and Restore the Royal Projects. They have volunteers who are willing to work. They have applied for a grant to assist with the mural project and walls have been designated to be painted. Chris Swanson, the President of the HRAA is making plans for a Fine Arts Festival to be held within the next two years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Organization. Nothing to report
- Design – Vickie reported that the flower pots are available if the City wishes to place them on Main Street. There was discussion of their maintenance. She added that several merchants were interested in “adopting” pots and maintaining them. She asked that any merchant interested should contact her.
- Economic Development –
 - Jason reported that Milliken is scheduled to close on the purchase on April 4th and will spend April retrofitting it as a warehouse, which should be operational in May. Milliken will ramp up to about 30 jobs at this site. As for Continental, they have released six of the proposed 100 jobs and are currently recruiting. All six jobs are for the Hogansville plant (the workforce development initiative mentioned at last month's meeting involves their regional facilities with the job creation to occur in Hogansville, Barnesville or a combination of both locations). We are coordinating with Maggie Laton (our regional project manager for global commerce with the Georgia Department of Economic Development) several industry visits throughout Hogansville to occur within the next several months.

- Jake Ayers expressed a strong desire to partner with the DDA in Pioneer planned events to include Commerce Street.
- Tourism Committee Update – Gayle reported that all the remaining fiberglass birds had been turned over to PC Printing in LaGrange. Gayle reported that the request to the Chamber for use of Hotel/Motel Tax Funds for 2 projects: (1) Isaiah Lofton historic marker on West Main St, and (2) Improved signage for the Tower Trail had been approved. We should expect funds from Troup County for both of them (\$2,500 toward the historic marker and \$3,000 toward the trail signage.).

Status of the Birds. Mr. Boyer asked about the status of remaining unpainted hummingbirds. Jason Stewart said that he needs the three remaining birds out of the East Main Street building. Vickie Brown reported that she is still waiting and talking to the Troup Chamber about two birds that were to be painted as bride and groom for her address. She has a painter, and is cautiously optimistic. Lynne Miller reported that the Police Department is interested in the third remaining bird, to paint and place in front of the Police Station. Debbie Dollar is holding a missing bird that fell off its pole near the amphitheater.

- Promotions – Marla Dannenbring reported two promotions for April 2018:
 - (1) On-going exhibit at Suffering Artist show Saturday March 3, 2018, 6-9 pm.
“Common Side Effects and Similar Figures” as well as “Wine and Paint” classes at Suffering Artist.
 - (2) All American Clean-up Day April 21.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Jason Stewart at 7:21 pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.