

MINUTES
CITY OF DAWSONVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
G.L. Gilleland Council Chambers, City Hall 2nd Floor
Monday, July 24, 2023
5:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Keith Stone called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Present were members Jonathan Campbell, Tasha Howell, Keith Stone, Dwight Gilleland, Jamie McCracken and William Illg.

Kevin Hammond was not present at the meeting; he has officially resigned from the board.

City Staff in attendance included City Clerk Beverly Banister and Downtown Development Director Amanda Edmondson.
3. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:** Invocation and pledge were led by D. Gilleland.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to amend the agenda to add item #11 Appoint Vice Chairperson made by W. Illg; second by T. Howell. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by W. Illg; second by J. McCracken. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
5. **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**
 - Regular Meeting held May 22, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes as presented made by W. Illg; second by D. Gilleland. Vote carried unanimously in favor.
6. **REVIEW FINANCIALS THROUGH JUNE 2023:** Board reviewed financials. No questions or comments.
7. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT – AMANDA EDMONDSON:** Director Edmondson provided an overview of the recent downtown development activity. She reported on a grant awarded from DCA for the Historic Resource Survey and she has applied for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. She reported on the upcoming Strategic Planning project and announced the dates for the meetings inviting all members of the DDA to be a part of the process. She provided an update on the billboard advertising project with the DDA supplementing a third of the cost. Lastly, the table tents promoting Downtown Dawsonville have been printed and she asked the Board to share them with the community.

OLD BUSINESS

8. **BANNERS:** Director Edmondson stated the pilot program for the banners has been implemented and the four banners have been placed in the park and she provided options for pricing and future placement if the Board desires to move forward with purchasing additional banners. Discussion occurred. The Board was interested in purchasing additional banners and would like to see more of them in the City Hall Complex area, as well as downtown. Edmondson explained there would be a different approval process and price to place them downtown and stated she could check into the logistics associated with placing them downtown.

Motion to table the item to the September 25, 2023 meeting made by W. Illg; second by J. Cambell. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

9. **DOWNTOWN DAWSONVILLE HISTORIC PHOTO CONTEST:** Director Edmondson proposed a Downtown Dawsonville Historic Photo Contest to uncover interesting new photographs of Historic Downtown Dawsonville and its changing architecture over the years to possibly influence or inspire future development. She proposed the DDA would sponsor and judge the photographs with a suggested \$200 prize. Discussion occurred surrounding the prize, criteria for the winner and possibly involving the Bowen Center.

Motion to sponsor the Downtown Dawsonville Historic Photo Contest with a First Place prize of \$200, Second Place prize of \$100 and a Third Place prize of \$50 with the Board members adjudicating and announcing the winners at the September 25, 2023 meeting made by W. Illg; second by T. Howell. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

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- 10. BBQ COMPETITION/FESTIVAL:** Director Edmondson presented some information regarding the event which she obtained through the Georgia Barbeque Association and the City of Tifton, who has held BBQ competitions in the past. Discussion occurred about specific logistics of the potential event which included the type of smoking equipment to be used especially without the availability of the required electrical hookups (50 AMP), professional vs. amateur entries, the judging, entry fees, the types of meats and conditions that may have to be met by the Board of Health and the Fire Department. It was determined that additional details would need to be confirmed before moving forward with a plan.

Director Edmondson charged the Board to reach out to their friends and local churches to determine an interest level and what their cooking set up would be so that we could find out what the Board of Health and the DCFD would allow and/or require. Motion made by J. McCracken to table the item to the September 25, 2023 meeting; second by W. Illg. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

- 11. APPOINT VICE CHAIRPERSON:** Chairperson Stone stated that the Board has a vacancy with Kevin Hammond resigning and to think about a replacement. The Board will also need to appoint a new Vice Chairperson.

Motion to appoint William Illg as the Vice Chairperson of the Board upon the contingency of approval by the City Attorney made by J. McCracken; second by D. Gilleland. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Strategic Planning Dates:** Director Edmondson reminded the Board regarding the Strategic Planning meeting dates and asked them to attend. She would also like to meet with the Board members ahead of time to hear their ideas on the frontend of the process to possibly incorporate into the master plan. She encouraged the Board to email her to schedule a stakeholder meeting.


ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:09 p.m. a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by W. Illg; second by D. Gilleland. Vote carried unanimously in favor.

Approved this 25th day of September 2023.

By: DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Vacant



William Illg, Vice Chair



Tasha Howell, Treasurer/Secretary

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Dwight Gilleland

absent

Jamie McCracken



Jonathan Campbell

Vacant

Attest: 

Beverly A. Banister, City Clerk

