

November DDA MEETING

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Location: Blairsville City Hall

Time: 12 PM

Megan Kimsey (Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

Present for Meeting: Megan Kimsey, Chris Wadle, Zach Edmonds, Rhonda Mahan, Steve Rowe, Courtney Waller, DDA Director Kristen Bentley.

Guests: Abby Weaver

A Quorum was established.

Conflicts of Interest: None

Public Commentary: None

Minutes: Chris Wadle made a motion to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes , Rhonda Mahan seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Financials: Courtney Waller made a motion to approve the November 2024 financials as presented, Rhonda Mahan seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

Kristen presented the board with a proposal to nominate DDA officers for 2025. Nominations were presented as follows: Zach Edmonds as Chair, Chris Wadle as Vice Chair, Megan Kimsey as Secretary, and Courtney Waller as Treasurer. Rhonda Mahan asked if the DDA could table the vote to elect officers until January, 2025. The board agreed.

Kristen presented the board with a brief overview of the new Appalachian Roots Festival in Downtown Blairsville. This festival encompasses the themes from the former Arts, Crafts & Music Festival and the former Mountain, Music, & Moonshine Festival. Kristen voiced that June seems like the most viable time to program the event. The board weighed in regarding how earlier in the month would be more beneficial to downtown merchants and tourism. The date June 7-8 was the most favorable, and Kristen proceeded to secure the event on the 2025 event calendar.

Zach Edmonds presented a Park Task Force Committee update to the Board: The T-Mobile Hometown Grant application to provide lighting and signage in the park grant is nearly completed, and the Committee will meet once more, on December 10, for the board to provide Kristen with final edits on the application. The final application will be submitted by Dec.31, and we will find out if we have received the grant by mid-February.

Old Business:

No old business was discussed.

Appendix:

Kristen gave her Director's Update for December and presented the last Work Plan 2024 Update.

Executive Session:

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters at 12:30PM. Zach Edmonds seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to come out of executive session at 12:38PM. Zach Edmonds seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to submit Abby Weaver's application to the City Council for approval to be on the DDA board. Courtney Waller seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to end the meeting, Courtney Waller seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 12:41PM.