

DDA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Location: Blairsville City Hall
Time: 12 PM

Megan Kimsey (Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:06 PM.

Present for Meeting: Megan Kimsey, Courtney Waller, Chris Wadle, Johnny Collins, Rhonda Mahan, Steve Rowe, Mayor Jim Conley, DDA Director Kristen Bentley

Guests: None

A Quorum was established.

No Public Commentary

Minutes (3/5/24): Motion was made by Sharon Davis to approve the minutes from 3/5/24. Rhonda Mahan seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Financials (March 2024 supplied by Kristen Bentley and February 2024 supplied by Kaye McCann): Rhonda Mahan made the motion to approve the financials. Chris Wadle seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Business:

Conferences/ Training Opportunities 2024: Kristen Bentley provided the Board of Directors with a full list she created of training opportunities they could access for the rest of the year and reminded the Directors that they need to pursue 2 hours of additional training (aside from the one-time DDA and Main Street 101 trainings) each year.

May Meeting Date: Kristen Bentley asked for consideration to change the date for the upcoming May Meeting (she will be absent because of her attendance at the National Main Street Conference.) Kristen Bentley proposed 05/14 at 12pm as the alternate date. Sharon Davis made the motion to approve the meeting date change. Courtney Waller seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Bylaws Amendment: Kristen Bentley presented a second draft of the Blairsville DDA Bylaws amendment. Courtney Waller made the motion to approve the Bylaws amendment. Sharon Davis seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Downtown Boundary Revision: Kristen Bentley reapproached the Directors and encouraged them to take action on the Downtown Boundary revision discussed in the March meeting;

Kristen Bentley reminded the Board that any boundary revision addition, regardless of how minor the change is, must be voted on by the Board of Directors. Sharon Davis made a motion to approve the Downtown Boundary Revision amendment. Rhonda Mahan seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Entertainment District Update: Kristen Bentley gave an update that the DDA Task Force established to approach the City Council about establishing an Entertainment District in Downtown Blairsville had a positive first presentation with the City Council (April 2, 2024). The decision was made by the City Council to draft an ordinance to go through a first round of reviews next month at the Blairsville City Council meeting.

Board Member Application: Kristen Bentley approached the Board of Directors with a Board Member Application for Zachary Edmonds. Chris Wadle made the motion to approve Zachary Edmonds as a DDA Board Member. Courtney Waller seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. This recommendation will be taken to the City Council at their May meeting, where the Council will make the final decision to approve the DDA's Board Member recommendation.

DDA Training Update: Kristen Bentley asked for any training updates from the Directors— none had been completed.

Director's Update: Attached in the packet for review. No action was taken.

Work Plan: Attached in the packet for review. No action was taken.

Executive Session:

Courtney Waller made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel related matters. Sharon Davis seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Chris Wadle seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chris Wadle made the motion for the DDA to conduct a formal 6 month review with DDA Director Kristen Bentley. Rhonda seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chris Wadle made the motion to adjourn the April 10th DDA Board Meeting. Sharon Davis seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 1:13pm.