

November DDA MEETING

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Location: Blairsville City Hall

Time: 12 PM

Courtney Waller (Vice-Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Present for Meeting: Megan Kimsey (by phone), Chris Wadle, Zach Edmonds, Rhonda Mahan, Steve Rowe, Courtney Waller, Johnny Collins, DDA Director Kristen Bentley.

Guests: Tom Shidaker

A Quorum was established.

Conflicts of Interest: None

Tom Shidaker thanked the Blairsville DDA for their ongoing support of Downtown Merchants and businesses.

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

Financials: Rhonda Mahan made a motion to approve October 2024 financials, Chris Wadle seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

Kristen presented the board with a proposal to solidify the facade grant discussion held in the October Work Session with an official vote. The proposal was to award all three applications that were received (Mountain Shelter Thrift Store to receive \$1500, 36 Clevelants St. (one of three units) to receive \$2000, and 36 Cleveland St. (one of three units) to receive \$2000). Zach Edmonds made a motion to approve all Facade Grant apps, Johnny Collins seconded the motion. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Kristen presented the board with the finished DDA Strategic Plan and recommended that the board make a motion to approve. After discussion, it was decided that the Strategic Plan was not an item that had to be approved by the board, and it is a live document that will fluidly be changed over the next 3 years.

Kristen presented the board with a proposal for the 2025 work plan. Rhonda Mahan made a motion to approve the 2025 Work Plan, Chris Wadle seconded the motion. All in Favor. **Motion carried.**

Kristen presented the board with a board member application for 2025, since there will be a vacancy starting in January. The board asked that she post an announcement on social media to make the notice of the vacancy public for one month before reviewing applications. She agreed to post the vacancy within one week of the November meeting.

Zach Edmonds presented the first Park Task Force update to the board. He stated that Kristen was still in the grant writing process and that some board members will meet with an electrician and light provider in the next couple of weeks. .

Old Business:

Kristen asked that Courtney, Johnny, and Chris complete their mandatory additional board training by December 31 and encouraged them to join a webinar taking place next Thursday, Nov. 14th OR Thursday, Dec. 19th.

Rhonda Mahan made a motion to end the meeting, Johnny Collins seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 12:39pm.