DDA/Main Street Minutes

March 16, 2022

Executive Board Members present: Elizabeth Brewer, Alice Glenn, Debbie Ray, Dennis White, Carey Jackson

Executive Board Chairman: Carey Jackson

Director: Jason Ford

Carey Jackson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Alice Glenn gave the treasurer’s report.

Director’s Report – See Jason’s attached report:

DDA March Director’s Report

Take a personal point of privilege and acknowledge the tragedy unfolding in Ukraine.

Training:

* Community Leadership Conference – Athens – March 1st, 2022
* Archway Summit – Athens – March 10-11
* Archway Leadership Program –March 24-25th, June 23rd, August 25th, September 15-16
* Mobilize Main Street – Rome/Acworth, March 29th&30th
* Georgia Downtown Conference – Macon – August 22-25
* Main Street & DDA 101 – Paul (1 year to complete)

Activity:

* March 8th – Held our first class in a new Business Education Series with SBDC “Choosing your Channel” 12 participants
* Archway Projects – Tourism Product Development, Streetscape, Strategic Plan, Wayfinding (Peggy)
* Nancy Hart Statue (begin conversation)
* Applying for Connected Resilient Community Designation through Archway Partnership
* Note upcoming events (Cars n Guitars, Pre-4th, etc.)
* “Breathe Easy – Downtown is Smoke Free campaign.” Picture attached

Community Connections:

* Rotary
* Archway Executive Committee
* College and Career Academy Board of Directors
* Hart County Education Foundation Board Member
* Georgia Initiative for Community Housing

Main Street – See Main Street Minutes:

Hartwell Main Street Minutes

March 7, p.m. at Twelve South on Carolina Street.

Present: Peggy Vickery, Jason Ford, , Karen Vahaly, Nancy Hardigree, Pudge Smith, Susan Hotchkiss, Dixie Northrup, Debra Taylor, Tammy Hutchinson, Dru Ann Williams, Diane Evans, Debbie Kulcsar, Shannon Vanskike, Pat Harper, Carol Beazley, Amanda Brown, Gretchen Torrence, Barbara Rhodes, Helene Brown, Winnnie J, Chrissy Warren, , Mary Lynn Jonson, Elizabeth Brewer, and Sandra Baker. Danielle

Peggy Vickery called the meeting to order.

Jason Ford, the DDA director gave a report the DDA : He stated that he had applied for the Braves trophy to come to Hartwell. Hopefully our community will be chosen. He also reported that Toccoa’s DDA was the in the running for Great American Main Street of the Year. He praised our Main Street and said we were better. He also reminded everyone about the Lunch and Learn to be held on Tuesday. This is a partnership with Archway and the High School.

Peggy Vickery announced that Paul Sewell was working with Fabritex on a dolly for the Piano. She also asked for the group to look over the minutes for approval. They were approved.

Vickery gave a report that Main Street has $29,424.50 in the checking account. As of today, $5,800 has been raised for Partnerships and Sponsorships.

Dixie Northrup gave the promotions report: Promotions they are working on, Photo Contest, Restaurant Week, and an appreciation platter for the Police Department, Fire, EMT, and Public Works. This will be March 17.

Arrangements have been made for the High school art department to paint the piano. Plans are to move it on Saturday.

The Façade committee report was given by Nancy Hardigree: She reported that the window clings have been purchased. Red Barn Canvas made them. Southern G’s will be the next business to get the Façade Grant. She said it was important that we try to get newspaper coverage with each one. She also reported that she had contacted Empire South and they hope to get their work done soon. Then the approved façade grant can be distributed to them.

Sandra Baker gave the design report: She reported that March 25 ACSM will visit Hartwell and talk about the Wayfinding signs. They will do a walk-through Hartwell. Next Sandra reported that they did a pot assessment and Gretchen Torrence created a map for the pots and what will go in each one The planting date if April 11 and 12.

Gretchen announced that Erin Cleary who was interested in the Landscape job, has withdrawn her application. She has another job.

Amanda Brown-Economic Vitality reported that the next Lunch and Learn will be May 24.

Birthdays were celebrated—other items mentioned, we need name tags, trashcans are needed on Railroad Street and Depots Street. Winnie J said she was having problems with mud in front of her businesses when it rains. She said that water puddles up and mud. Peggy will reach out to the public works department.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Peggy Vickery

The minutes from last month were approved by Dennis White, seconded by Alice Glenn.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jason Ford, Executive Director