**DAHLONEGA DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY/MAIN STREET BOARD**

**August 10, 2017**

**8:45 AM**

**City Hall**

**Members present: Donna Logan, Hal Williams, Chris Welch, Tony Owens**

**Staff Present: Danielle Bell, Bill Schmid**

**Community Members Present: Penny Sharp**

**AGENDA**

1. **Approve July 13, 2017 meeting minutes** - ACTION ITEM – Tony

**Donna motions to approve minutes, Tony seconds motion, all in favor, motion passes.**

1. **Approve financial report** – ACTION ITEM – Danielle

**Hal motions to approve, Chris seconds motions, all in favor, motion passes**.

1. **Update on Downtown Economic Development Strategies (Wayfinding Recommendation) – Tony**

**A wayfinding recommendation has been prepared and Hal, Tony and Joel Cordle will attend the next City Council work session to present options. Wayfinding would be an enhancement to the appearance of downtown, useful to residents and visitors and would help build positive relations with merchants.**

1. **Staff Report** – Danielle

**Highlighted staff work for the past month – potential new science themed festival, expanding footprint of downtown with landscaping, ensuring smooth communications with merchants, etc.**

1. **Announcements from partner agencies**

* City of Dahlonega
  1. The Streetscape project has gone to bid and Council will discuss at this month’s meetings
  2. Exploring seasonal photo opportunities at Gold Museum site. Working with state to coordinate use of space.
  3. A quick response GDOT project will take place at Chestatee and Morrison Moore Parkway to create a dedicated turn lane.
  4. The City, DDA and Chamber will be meeting with Bike Across Georgia regarding Dahlonega being a stop for this year.
  5. DDA Director search is still underway.
* University of North Georgia – no report
* Chamber of Commerce/Tourism Office
  1. Southern Living, Trip Advisor, and media coverage from “Little Dive Bar in Dahlonega” song have created a lot of buzz about Dahlonega.
  2. David Zunker presented to a Senate study committee regarding tourism. Topics discussed were a UGA wine study, simplifying wine distribution laws, the Brunch Bill, and the School Smart Bill.
  3. The Convocation Center will open in May. It will have seating for 3,600 and will have 3 breakout spaces.
  4. Laurie Hallock is tracking sales downtown with other merchants to identify how downtown as a whole is doing in terms of business sales.
  5. Bed tax numbers having increased for the year thus far. VRBO and Air B&B are now included with this.
* Historic Preservation Commission – Bill Schmid – HPC will be hearing Roberta Green’s application for demolition and rebuilding of her property this month.
* Planning & Zoning Commission – no report
* Downtown Merchant Coalition – no report

1. **New Business**

**None.**

1. **Adjourn**

**Chris motions to adjourn, Donna seconds. Tony adjourns the meeting at 9:50 am.**

***FOR YOUR CALENDAR:***

***DDA Regular Board Meeting September 14, 2017***

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