

CORNELIA



DOWNTOWN  
DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY

# DDA/Main Street Board Meeting

## AGENDA

Thursday, May 4, 2017 8:30AM  
Cornelia Depot

1. Meeting called to order- 8:32 AM by Brian Horton
2. Adopt Agenda- Motion to adopt made by Brentt Cody and seconded by Amanda Chosewood
3. Financials- Operating account has \$7,108.98; Façade grant has \$5,549.45; Loan fund account has \$183,116.67. South State Bank modified our loan. We will be making a principal reduction of \$100,020.70 today, which will bring our account balance down to \$83,095.97, and it will bring our monthly payments down to \$1,506.00. Jessie also said that if she comes in the Apple Blossom Festival under budget, she will deposit the revenue of \$1,407.50 into the façade grant account.
4. Old Business
  - A) Work Plan 2017- Update- Dee presented the board with a cost estimate for Carter and Sloope for the Apple Tree Alley Streetscape project. The estimate is \$520,160.00. Since we don't have the money for the project, Jessie says she and Jan Garrison will sit down and do some grant writing this summer to see if we can find the money for the project.
  - B) Bigg Daddy's- Jessie to update on progress- Jessie says they will open May 17 tentatively. She says they are doing the final touches and loading things into the building this week. Everyone is anticipating the opening, and we are all very excited about it. It was mentioned by Don Higgins that there needs to be some separation between sign grants and façade grants, and Brian agreed. He said that Clarkesville only allows \$500 for signs, and façade grants go to \$1,500. Matt Cathey made a motion to separate the two and make a new sign grant, and Melany Ward seconded the motion. All were in favor. Jessie to work on this.
  - C) Apple Blossom Festival recap- Jessie said that moving the event from two days down to one was way better. It helped relieve the number of volunteers needed, and also helped the teams be able to relax and hang out some before the cook. They all enjoyed it and said this was their favorite contest. They were all a little disappointed that Natalie's was closed but are looking forward to Bigg Daddy's being open next year. We had a slightly bigger crowd and a slightly larger revenue, and the People's Choice had WAY less complaints than last year.
  - D) Application for board member- Joshua Barrett, Regions Branch Manager- Since we don't have an opening, the DDA reviewed his application and decided to make him an ex-officio member until a seat opens up. He was highly recommended. A motion was made to accept his application by Don Higgins, and seconded by Brentt Cody, all were in favor.
5. New Business
  - A) City Manager Update- The City is going to do a total rewrite of its zoning ordinances, alcohol ordinances, and also decided to hire a part time depot employee to help market and keep

the depot and Chenocetah Tower open. The buildings on South Main Street are currently in process of being demolished. The City of Cornelia owns some land on the Soque and are looking at marketing it as a kayak launch to help with tourism needs. Frankie Smith has a retirement reception on Tuesday, May 9, at 11:30 at the Community House. The new waterplant will break ground sometime this month. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at the site on Camp Creek Road. This is a 20.5 million dollar economic development project that is 8 years in the making, and will make a huge economic impact.

- B) Proposal from 4PM to renovate bank building- Everyone read the proposal and discussed the project clarifying the scope. A motion was made by Don Higgins to accept the proposal to renovate the bank building. Melany Ward seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- C) Cost estimate for Apple Tree Streetscape project- Dee presented the board with a cost estimate for Carter and Sloope for the Apple Tree Alley Streetscape project. The estimate is \$520,160.00. Since we don't have the money for the project, Jessie says she and Jan Garrison will sit down and do some grant writing this summer to see if we can find the money for the project.

- 6. Upcoming Events: Big Red Apple Festival, October 7
- 7. Next Regular Board Meeting: **Thursday, June 8, 2017** at the Depot
- 8. Adjourn- Brian Horton at 9:26 AM

Attended: Brian Horton, Donald Anderson, Jessie Owensby, Melany Ward, Heath Barrett, Don Higgins, Brentt Cody, Matt Cathey, Amanda Chosewood

Absent: NONE!