

CITY OF HOSCHTON
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021
CITY HALL COUNCIL ROOM AT 6:00PM
79 CITY SQUARE, HOSCHTON



REGULAR MEETING

SUMMARY

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER *at 6pm by Dr. Kumar*

ROLL CALL:

Dr. Kumar, Chair
Ms. Tracy Jordan
Mr. Joe Vogt
Ms. Tracey Carden
Mr. Shawn Adams

Absent:

Ms. Anita Boyd
Mr. Ray Vaughn

LAST MONTH AGENDA/MINUTES APPROVAL *Motion to approve by Adams, Second Jordan and all in favor.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS/CITIZENS INPUT *No Comments by the Public*

OLD BUSINESS

1. Farmer's Market Progress, *The November Market was the best so far reaching 9 vendors and over 97 visitors per Shawn Manaher (Committee Member)*
2. Events: Jingle Mingle, Toy Consignment, Cornhole League, BBQ
Jingle/Mingle event may bring \$3k to \$5k to the general fund, Peachtree Cornhole will provide the League for F2022 (Shawn M. will direct) Toy Consignment will be lead by Shawn Adams. BBQ Competition is underway with goal of October 2022.
3. Historical collection of materials & Historical Preservation Committee
Joe Vogt and his committee is working on a game plan to preserve history and educate the community.
4. Follow up: Christmas Downtown Decoration, Dog water fountain, Steam rail engine, High school volunteers: *Will reach out to West Jackson Comprehensive High School to encourage high school students to join us to get a sense of community to this youth population.*
5. NEGRC/HPC/DCA communication for Govt. funds, *Dr. Kumar stated that we are still working for funding for a varies of projects*
6. Community Infrastructure: Local community banks, Private donors, Govt. grants, *Dr. Kumar stated that we are still working for funding for a varies of projects*

7. UGA downtown visit/public input via digital/hybrid survey

Met with UGA team on 11/20 in the city hall to hear the work-in-progress. Students presented their preliminary work. UGA will touch base with the city in a month or two for public input before they deliver the work product.

- *Community Garden: Shared the concept with city administrator/UGA and in agreement. Brainstorming different concepts. Plan is to make it one-of-a kind (rose garden/butterfly garden/cotton grow) to uniquely brand our city as a destination point. Working finer details on operations and budget. Also, working on T-Mobile grant (\$50k) to support the project and plan to submit it in Spring.*
- *Initiated Downtown small business incubator concept to support local businesses by potentially collaborating with UGA/SBDC. Will coordinate with HABA to organize downtime business meeting. Eventually make ribbon cutting for local businesses to show our support. Will slowly steer the DDA efforts from events to downtown business growth once we settle with events.*
- *Waiting on the 2021 financial status of DDA expenses. Will report back next month.*

8. Rehabilitation of Mulberry Home for potential Bed/breakfast *Dr. Kumar stated that we are still tossing ideas around. But stated that one of our board members did inspect the home and mentioned that it had a good structure.*

9. Year-end financial status: *We will have this available after budget is complete by Council.*

10. Tentative 2022 goals/budget: *The broader and specific goals will be finalized with measurable success metrics by asking member's to take a lead role. Also, ensuring that the project is not dependent on one person/group of individuals so that DDA efforts are not disrupted in a long run.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. Community Garden on Oak Street: Greenhouse/Park/Funding/4H County Program, Dr. Kumar discussed different ideas but nothing in stone. Will continue to explore.
2. Participation at Holiday Fair in Cresswind: 12/19 *Dr. Kumar encouraged all to participate*
3. Small Business Incubator/HABA/UGA *Dr. Kumar encouraged all to participate*
4. Discuss and Vote on Volunteer Coordinator, Event Coordinator
5. Vote on Corn Hole League; Associate member *Motion to move forward with hosting a cornhole tournament by Jordan, second by Adams and all in favor.*

ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 7:24pm by Kumar, Second by Jordan and all in favor.