

Main Street Advisory Board
Minutes –July 21, 2022

1. Call to Order : Chairman Cossart called the meeting to order at 5:09pm.

Roll: Chairman Cossart; Directors Lay, Moore and Presswood were present. Directors Gordon, Loudermilk, and DeShazier were absent.

Staff: Alicia Hartley – Downtown Manager, Bryan Wood – Community Development Director, and Christine Sewell – Recording Clerk.

2. Invocation: was given by Director Lay

3. Guests/Speakers – None

4. Citizens with Input – None

5. Old Business – None

6. New Business

- a. Approve June 16, 2022, minutes

Director Lay motioned to approve as submitted; Director Presswood seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- b. Approve June 2022 Financial Statements

Director Presswood motioned to approve as submitted; Director Lay seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

- c. Review of proposal for downtown tree light re-wrapping

Ms. Hartley advised she had reached out to the contractor Unique Landscaping of Warner Robins to add trees would be \$150 per tree, with three proposed at this time. The company could not provide a cost to re-wrap because they do not know the current state of those already done and advised what is up now was not intended for year round. Ms. Hartley also provided an example of a lighted ball that could be placed for the holidays in addition to the wrapped trees. Chairman Cossart asked staff to provide costs for year round lights, what is required to repair/replace existing, and have for the September meeting as this would need to be done by the holidays.

- d. Consideration of extension for Certificate of Appropriateness – 805 Commerce Street

Mr. Wood advised the COA approval expired June 30th and the applicant has asked for an extension to finalize a plan for a potential tenant. Mr. Wood noted the owner has the opportunity to put up public notice signs regarding no parking and towing, but would have to follow state law for the specifics of that requirement. Ms. Hartley advised she had spoken with Mr. Fountain and he is requesting a 60 day extension as he is in negotiations with two tenants. Mr. Wood advised staff is recommending denial of the extension and noted Mr. Fountain is concerned with what the public may perceive if he places the no parking/tow signs. Director Lay felt if Mr. Fountain could mimic what the Muse Theatre did with fencing it would be acceptable. Director Presswood motioned to

deny the extension request; Director Moore seconded; all in favor and was unanimously denied.

7. Chairman Items- None

8. Downtown Manager's Report

a. Downtown Projects update

Ms. Hartley advised the city did not receive the Downtown Redevelopment Grant. The Farmers Market will temporarily be located on the lot at the corner of Ball and Main Street while the new city hall is renovated. A cost of \$1200 for the update and reworking of the kiosk sign, but there may be an option to do a 2D map; staff will provide cost. Will forward for consideration advertise for Macon Magazine which would be a "mini magazine" showcasing downtown. Trey Moody's office will be working on removing the façade in the coming month or two.

b. Strategic Plan Update - A joint work session with the board and DDA is set for August 29th.

9. Promotion Committee Report – The committee met this week and selected vendors for the Harvest Dinner. Request for the purchase of downtown dollars for \$75 for the Scarecrow Festival. Director Lay motioned to approve the expenditure of \$75; Director Moore seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved. The redesigned historical marker was presented, additional changes are being made.

10. Update on Downtown Development Authority- None

11. Other- None

12. Adjourn: there being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 6:06pm.

Approved 08.05.22