

Main Street Advisory Board
Minutes - October 3, 2024

1. Call to Order: Chairman Cossart called the meeting to order and referred to the decorum guidelines.

Roll: Chairman Cossart; Directors Anderson-Cook, Lay, Presswood, and Walker were present. Directors Jones and Moore were absent.

Staff: Alicia Hartley – Downtown Manager and Christine Sewell – Recording Clerk

2. Guests/Speakers

- a. Haley Myers – Ghouls Night Out Merchant Donation Request – Ms. Myers on behalf of the Merchants Association is requesting a \$100 gift card donation for the downtown Ghouls Night Out on October 24th from 5-8pm. The event involves no city services, and each of the participating merchants will be doing a giveaway. The gift card will be for the virtual costume contest. Director Lay motioned to provide a \$100 downtown gift card; Director Anderson-Cook seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved. Ms. Hartley advised since the last two Live at Five were cancelled the merchants are requesting for the October 24th event, she will speak with management on allowing since it was approved for Fridays only.

3. Citizens with Input – None

4. Old Business – None

5. New Business

- a. Approve September 5, 2024, minutes

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

- b. Approve August financials

Director Anderson-Cook motioned to approve as submitted; Director Walker seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

6. Chairman Items – None

7. Downtown Manager's Report

- a. Downtown Projects update

Ms. Hartley advised on September 10th a meeting with the stakeholders was held and participants were asked to prioritize the development of the area; it was noted that parking & road improvements, sidewalks & crosswalks, public spaces, and greenspace upgrades were needed.

Ms. Hartley reminded the board of the joint meeting with DDA and the Mayor on October 7th. GDOT will hold a public outreach meeting on October 16th regarding the reconfiguration of Swift Street at Macon Road. The downtown planter project is on hold due to the estimated costs, however, new pine straw and other ground cover improvements.

Bank of Dudley ribbon cutting on October 23rd, new restaurant at the Chalet Lofts, and 713 Commerce Street is moving forward with the outdoor garden space.

Ms. Hartley asked for the boards input on the Perry Chamber magazine for a half page ad at a cost of \$1295; it was the consensus of the board not to proceed with for 2025.

Members of the Placemaking Committee recently attended a conference in Gainesville and some useful resources for ideas and grants was received. The crosswalk design has been selected and will be presented to Council on October 15th.

Director Presswood arrived at 4:39pm.

8. Promotion Committee Report – Ms. Hartley advised the Veteran’s banners are ordered and will be installed on November 1st. The nature loom project on the side of Perry Players will be in place on October 12th. Warehouse Sale had mixed reviews, there were more visitors downtown than at the events center; may look into having only once a year, but two sidewalk sales. Beer, Bourbon, BBQ event has two more sponsors, will increase promotion.
9. Update on Downtown Development Authority: Chairman Cossart advised the board agreed to fund the electrical portion of the downtown project with rewiring the trees and adding the electrical sources.

Director Walker left the meeting at 4:55pm.

10. Other – None

11. Adjourn: there being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.

Approved 11.07.24