



**Downtown Development Authority of Blakely
MINUTES**

Monday, Nov. 27, 2023

5:30 pm

Alexander Building

Chamber-Development Authority Board Room

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Atkins, Beau Clenney, Heather Allred, Edwin James, Jennifer Mulkey, and Brad Clenney.

ABSENT MEMBERS: Franklin Ford (excused - sick)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Susanne Reynolds

Dave Atkins, Interim DDA Chair, called the meeting to order.

- **MINUTES:** Beau Clenney made a motion to approve minutes from the October 23, 2023 regularly scheduled meeting. Seconded by Brad Clenney. All voted in favor.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** As of November 27, the One South Bank checking account: \$6,584.02 , and the First State Bank of Blakely (Facade Grant Program) checking account: \$7500.00. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Brad Clenney and seconded by Edwin James. All voted in favor.
- **OLD BUSINESS:** None.
- **NEW BUSINESS:** Invoices for creating Downtown Blakely (fundraising) T-shirts were received from Shirts by Shanay (Approx. \$1,400.00 - vinyl print) and USSPS (Approx. \$1,300.31 - screenprint). Board asked to see shirts in the following colors: Blue Jean & Granite with white outline of pocket logo and back logo from USSPS. A motion was made by Heather Allred to accept the invoice from USSPS. The motion was seconded by Brad Clenney. All voted in favor. Dave Atkins will speak with two board members about being on the Fundraising Committee and report back at the next meeting. Heather Allred suggested hosting the next Merchant Meet-Up on Monday, Dec. 11th at Funny Girl Deli. The board will have suggestion card boxes available for guests.

- **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Dave Atkins suggested the board taking one suggestion each month and making it a reality. The suggestions can be “action items” for the board.
- **DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** City of Blakely designated a Rural Zone Community and shared an official map with the board. Reynolds will attend RZ training in Forsyth tomorrow (11/28) from 9:30 am - 2 pm. She reminded board members to set up and check Downtown Blakely emails. They have all been registered for DDA 101 - Mainstreet Training. Shared Downtown Blakely incentives. Reynolds also gave an update on Norfolk Southern Grant that was submitted by the Early County Board of Commissioners for a LED screen for the old theatre. If the grant is approved, the equipment for future movie showings would be owned by the ECBOC, since the theatre is owned by the County.
- **OTHER DISCUSSIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

A motion to adjourn was made by Brad Clenney and seconded by Dave Atkins. All voted in favor.

Meeting minutes were recorded by Susanne Reynolds, Blakely DDA Executive Director.

Dave Atkins
Interim Chair

Jennifer Mulkey
Interim Vice-Chair