

# Downtown Development Authority of Blakely MINUTES

Monday, June 26, 2023

5:30 pm

The Alexander Building  
Chamber-Development Authority Board Room

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

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Susanne Reynolds, Celia Bostwick, Vicki Ford, Kimberly Hope Fleming, and Priscillia George.

Director Susanne Reynolds called the first meeting of the Blakely DDA to order. Kimberly Hope Fleming was introduced as a member of the Historic Preservation Commission. Introductions were made by each board member. Updates were given on the following: general overview of DDA, Board member terms as listed within the Blakely DDA Resolution, required 8-hour board member training, mini retreat with Georgia Power and DCA in the Fall, creation of bylaws, mission statements, regular meetings, board officer elections, registering DDA with DCA, downtown/court square incentives, funding the DDA, rural zone application, and ECG bus tour.

- Free Sidebar DA Board Member Training available June 28-29 & August 30 & 31. Let Susanne know if you would like to register.
- GA Main Street - DDA 101 Virtual Training Available - \$50.00/person.
- Next meeting - Interim Board Members will be elected. Make nominations.
- Samples of DDA bylaws/mission statements shared.
- Susanne to register DDA with DCA as soon as resolution is received by DCA and SOS.
- The Development Authority of Early County has agreed to kickstart the Court Square Facade Grant program with \$15,000. Mr. Bill Mills, County Attorney, working on intergovernmental agreement, etc.
- DDA should decide on asking the City of Blakely for X-amount per year to support DDA efforts.
- One South Bank (Dave Atkins, President) offered to donate the first \$1,000 to the Blakely DDA. (Interim officers must be elected before a bank account can be created, etc.)
- Susanne walked through the Rural Zone designation application and 5-Year Strategic Vision & Plan for Downtown Blakely.
- Susanne notified DDA of the ECG bus tour in August. Asked for suggestions/thoughts.
- Public Comments were made by Vicki Ford and Celia Bostwick in reference to the GA Initiative for Community Housing and the re-starting of the Court Square Arts Council.
- The meeting was adjourned by Susanne Reynolds, Director.

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



Interim Chair



Interim Vice-Chair or Secretary-Treasurer