

LAWRENCEVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MEETING: APRIL 28, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Wasserman, Marie Beiser, Kathy Monroe, Carter Gorman

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Bob Baroni and Brad Leonard

Brad Leonard announced that the DDA by-laws require four members for a quorum. Since four members were present, the meeting was called to order.

The first business was to elect a chairman, secretary and treasurer.

Gene Wasserman was elected chairman, Carter Gorman, treasurer, and Marie Beiser, secretary.

It was explained at the meeting that the members are appointed to both the DDA and the Lawrenceville Development Authority. The major difference between the two authorities being that the LDA was to primarily promote industrial growth.

Meeting times were set for the DDA to be the fourth Monday of the month, unless that Monday should fall on a holiday, at 7:00 pm at the City Hall. Brad Leonard will make sure that the meeting times are given to the press. The following meeting schedule was set:

May 20 - 7:00 pm
June 23 - 7:00 pm
July 28 - 7:00 pm
Aug.25 - 7:00 pm

Gene Wasserman asked Brad Leonard to explain the maps which Brad had assembled for the meeting room and tell a little of the previous history of the DDA. The DDA was created in the late 70's as an Authority of the State. It was a time when low bond interest rates were available as a mechanism of funding projects. In 1988 Lawrenceville established a Task Force of several interested individuals to look into revitalization of the downtown square area. The Task Force raised a total of \$15,000 which the City Council matched to have a conceptual plan drawn. The City Council adopted the concept and the plan proceeded forward under the direction of the DDA. The courthouse square design was completed in 1992.

Brad presented the present DDA boundary map of the city.

It was explained that the present downtown zoning is BG. The city is now considering changing zoning in the downtown area. If the DDA has any input it should be made soon while this changing of zoning is in progress. The new zoning could allow housing units, mixed use, commercial use, residential.

It was stated that currently the ARC has a \$70,000 grant for a study. The city is applying for this grant. Once this grant should materialize there could be up to \$350,000 dollars of grants controlled by the ARC that could be applied to revitalization.

Brad will keep the DDA informed on the ARC grant.

The DDA can target various groups through studies, surveys, city council as to what the people of Lawrenceville would like to see in the area.

Carter Gorman will check with Sally McKelvey, previous treasurer, about the bank account.

DDA members planned a walk of the boundaries in the near future.

The City Council work session is held the third Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting is May 21. The DDA at any time can call to be placed on the agenda.

Kathy Monroe plans to have someone come to perhaps the July meeting to talk about the Main Street program.

Marie Beiser is to contact someone from Norcross or Duluth DDA to come to the May 20 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Marie Beiser
Secretary