

Lawrenceville-Downtown Development Authority

Meeting: August 25, 2003 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Gene Wasserman, Carter Gorman, Kathy Monroe, Marie Beiser, and Mike Reedy

Chairman Gene Wasserman called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the July 28 minutes. Minutes were approved.

Emory Mosburger, local developer and owner of several properties on and off the square of Lawrenceville, introduced Bill Tunnell and Alycen Whiddon from the architectural firm of Tunnell-Spangler-Walsh & Associates. Bill Tunnell made a presentation with an aerial map of Lawrenceville with an overlay of two circles one with a ¼ mile radius walk from the square and a second circle ½ mile walk from the square. He laid out what he called the A streets running N/S and E/W. This encompassed about a nine-block area. A part of this plan would begin with the planned walk from the GJAC to the heart of the square and at sometime in the future link all the way to Rhodes Jordan Park. Parking was discussed to make it convenient for people coming to town enabling them to park near retail and restaurants.

It was suggested that the DDA assist putting the first phase of development in place. Establish the policy, program and projects to begin. Identify what the projects are, how to build, etc. Should there be architectural standards, roof lines, awnings, signage, etc. Or should these architectural standards be considered with each project brought before the DDA. A retail specialist could be consulted to decide merchandizing plans, what tenants are needed, and what kind of restaurants. The plan and standards could be a projected plan on parking needed today, how dense do we think the area should be one-story, two-story, and 3-story buildings.

It was decided by the DDA that TSW would come back with a more specific plan drawn of the first phase of the development.

Chairman Wasserman introduced Bob McIntyre from Biltmore Communications. He made a presentation on Wireless Internet Service Providers. The cost of wireless Internet installed in Lawrenceville would be about \$25,000. Depending on the bandwidth it could serve 500 to 1000 people. Urban centers have seen this as an attraction for business, visitors, or packaging an event. The city of Norcross is taking bids presently. Other venues are Athens, Georgia Tech Technology Center, Hartsfield Airport, and the World Congress Center.

Tony Powell, Lawrenceville City Attorney, explained to the DDA the steps to establish the non-profit agency to handle the money from the hotel-motel tax. The non-profit must have membership and directors. Total dues from members of the non-profit must exceed the source of the money. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the name of Lawrenceville Tourism and Trade Association and to include all the elements designated

by Tony Powell and to authorize Carter Gorman to issue a check for \$500 and sign the application.

A second motion was made and seconded to submit a resolution to the city of Lawrenceville Mayor and Council to designate and name the DDA to serve as a redevelopment agency.

Brad Leonard spoke next regarding zoning classifications. He read over the zoning classifications asking the DDA members to vote to strike or save certain zonings that belong in the downtown district. These classifications are set forth in the schedule of district regulations.

Another motion was made and seconded to request the mayor and city council to create an overlay district that would extend to the red line of the map showing zoning ordinance regulations.

Mention was made that the artist Carol Weaver submitted a proposal for murals on two walls of the Sosebee Auto Supply store. This was tabled to the next meeting.

Next meeting September 22.

Meeting Adjourned 10:00 pm.

Marie Beiser
Secretary