

May 20, 2003 Lawrenceville Downtown Development Authority Meeting

Present: Gene Wasserman, John Heard, Mike Reedy, Jimmy Brannan, Kathy Monroe, Carter Gorman, Marie Beiser

City employees present: Brad Leonard

Chairman Gene Wasserman began the meeting asking everyone to introduce themselves.

Members from the previous meeting were asked to report on the tasks assigned to them. Kathy Monroe reported that a speaker is coming to the June 18 work session of the city council to talk about the Main Street Program.

Marie Beiser reported that Paige Hatley, assistant to the Duluth City Administrator, will be coming to the meeting tonight to speak about what Duluth is doing with grants, the Main Street Program, etc.

Carter Gorman, treasurer, reported that he had met with Sally McKelvey, the previous treasurer. He has been to the Brand Bank to find out how to change over the accounts to the new DDA and treasurer. The DDA members present voted to delete all names of the previous members eligible to sign checks. It was decided by the present DDA to have a one line sign on the check but anything over \$500 be approved by the DDA. The only required signature will be treasurer, Carter Gorman. A second member signature, if needed, will be the secretary Marie Beiser.

Carter Gorman gave a treasurer's report. He passed out a copy of the bank statement from the Brand Banking Co. The current statement balance as of 4-30-03 is \$66,492.76.

Jimmy Brannan asked that the DDA check and see if the loan for the Percision Planning building and the Jim Anderson building had been paid off. The money owed from these two buildings was the potential revenue for the DDA.

Gene Wasserman mentioned the future dates of training sessions for DDA members. He will make sure all members receive the dates.

Paige Hatley, assistant to Phil McLemore City Administrator in Duluth, was introduced. Paige Hatley is in charge of the Main Street program for Duluth. This is one of many hats she wears in her position with Duluth. Duluth has a master plan. The city has issued a 20 year bond enabling them to undertake a 4.5 million town green. The city has acquired properties. The DDA has identified properties for the city to acquire then they are transferred to the DDA and leased to the city. The Duluth Fall Festival has committed to paying \$1 mil.

The historic downtown Duluth is approximately 15 acres. Sizemore group did the master plan. Duluth is tapping into federal funding, LCI and T grants. The city has also adopted a Façade grant. This reimburses on a scale private owners who upgrade the façade of their buildings with certain architectural guidelines.

Duluth has historic overlay districts. Zoning designates use of ground floor, retail, and restaurant.

Paige also recommended the Main street program for their free service and technical aid. Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation is also a great agency. Having the Main street program looks good when applying for grants.

After Paige Hatley's presentation members discussed having architectural guidelines for downtown Lawrenceville DDA district.

Members will bring architectural guidelines for Alpharetta and Roswell to the next meeting or alert members as to how the guidelines may be downloaded from the internet.

The Lawrenceville DDA could pass a regulation to have a DDA district or an architectural review board to alter the boundary.

Brad mentioned that the city council could take on a master plan for downtown. He will keep the DDA informed on this plan.

It was mentioned to have a new plan done by an agency could take a year or more to get the plan and longer to implement it. Perhaps an in house plan could suffice.

Marie Beiser
Secretary