

Downtown Boone Development Association

October 2, 2014 – Minutes

Members in Attendance: Eric Plaag, Chris Grasinger, Brad Harmon, Andy Stallings, Colten Lenz, Nealy Andrews, Lynne Mason, and Bob Meier

Staff: Virginia Falck, downtown coordinator and Pilar Fotta, dir. of Cultural Resources

Others in Attendance: Officer Mike Foley

The meeting unofficially started at 8:35 am as the group was waiting on one more board member to achieve a quorum.

Virginia discussed the results of the traffic study email motion regarding cost sharing with the Town on the downtown traffic study. The motion passed. Eric inquired about the timeline for the traffic study. Lynne stated the project would move forward in the Fall when there is a large amount of vehicle volume in downtown. She continued to state that the Fall was a good representation of when it is the busiest in downtown. There was a discussion about pedestrian traffic on Howard St, game day traffic and pedestrian flow on game days.

Virginia reminded the group of the downtown Boone BOO! on Friday, October 31st and discussed the closing of W. King St. for the event. She then discussed the Christmas Wreath buying program and encouraged the group to spread the word about the wreath program and to purchase a wreath.

Bob Meier arrived at 9:15 am, and the group officially started their meeting.

Virginia ask to amend the agenda to add the approval of the 2014-2015 DBDA unrestricted funds budget.

Bob asked the group for a motion to approve the September agenda and October agenda as amended. Eric made a motion to approve the September agenda and October agenda as amended, Andy seconded. All agreed.

Bob asked the group for a motion to approve the August minutes. Brad made a motion to approve the August minutes, Andy seconded. All agreed.

Bob asked the group for a motion to approve the October financials. Brad made a motion to approve the October financials, Andy seconded. All agreed.

Next the group discussed the streetlight and sidewalk light installation. Eric requested a breakdown for the cost of sidewalk lights at our next meeting. He also recommended that any savings received from not moving forward with retrofitting the streetlights go to addressing specific problems areas in downtown, such as the area by Black Cat Burrito and the area by Farm Café and Boone Belles. Bob mentioned how he felt like the street lights were satisfactory and did not cause too much light pollution. Colton suggested replacing some street lights in downtown, but to leave the current streetlights that are located by a second story resident in place. Bob stated that the overwhelming issues was safety in downtown.

Virginia then presented the 2014-2015 DBDA unrestricted funds budget. Bob asked for a motion to approve the proposed DBDA unrestricted funds budget. Brad made a motion to approve the budget as present, Andy seconded. All agreed.

The group then elected officers. Bob offered to continue to serve as Vice President, and Brad offered to serve as President. Bob then asked for a motion from the group to elect him as the continuing Vice President and Brad as the new President. Andy made a motion to elect Bob as Vice President and Brad as president, Eric seconded the motion. All agreed.

It was then decided that since the current Treasurer, Evalyn Sudderth and Secretary, Jamie Goodman were not present that the group would wait till next month's meeting to continue with the election of the DBDA Treasurer and Secretary.

Next the group discussed the parking meters contract with the Town. Staff stated they foresaw the new parking management system would be in place by the end of the year. Bob asked for a motion to approve the parking meters contract with the Town. Colton made a motion to approve the contract, Eric seconded. All agreed.

The group then discussed the traffic study contract with the Town. Bob asked for a motion to approve the traffic study contract with the Town. Eric made a motion to approve the traffic study contract, Andy seconded. All agreed.

Virginia then brought up the need to review and make possible changes to the DBDA bylaws. She asked for Sheri, Dempsey, and Nealy to serve, if they were willing, on a bylaws committee to review and make possible revisions. Nealy agreed and Virginia said she would contact Sheri and Dempsey regarding their willingness to serve on the committee. In particular, Virginia stated that she would like to visit the idea of moving the DBDA monthly board meetings to the second Tuesday of each month. Currently the bylaws state that the DBDA monthly board meetings shall take place the first week of each month. There was a brief discussion regarding board member's availability on the second Tuesday of each month. Bob asked for a motion to form a bylaws committee. Eric made a motion to approve the formation of a DBDA bylaws committee, Brad seconded. All agreed.

The group then discussed the promotion of downtown Boone during home Appalachian State football games. Lynne discussed a meeting that she, Virginia, Pilar, and David Jackson had regarding promotion of downtown Boone during home football games. Virginia provided some of the board members with Touchdown Downtown brochures to give out during the next home game, and Virginia stated that she would begin posting events and specials offered by downtown merchants on the downtownboonenc.com website. A discussion ensued regarding passing out information near ASU and in downtown Boone.

With no further business Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Colton seconded. All agreed.