

DDA Meeting
August 17, 2016

Executive Board Members present:

Executive Board Members: Carey Jackson, Chairman, Debbie Ray, Alice Glenn, Vance Foster, Stephanie Crump, Rebecca Metzger

Executive Board Members absent: Dennis White

Advisory Board Members present:

Pudge Smith, Nancy Hardigree, Helene Brown, Tammy Hutchinson, Michelle Wetherbee

Absent: Gretchen Torrence, Dru Ann Williams, Barbara Rhodes, Colleen Oberg, Dillon Bowers, Maureen Holder, Beth Matthews, Dru Ann Williams, Pat Harper, Debra Taylor, Kathy Bryant, Darcy Maixner, Suzanne Barfield, Earl Johnson, Tina Howard

Director: Henley Cleary

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m by Chairman, Carey Jackson.

The minutes from the June meeting were approved as written.

Alice Glenn read the Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports:

Promotions: Helene Brown, Chair (create a positive image to rekindle community pride and improve consumer and investor confidence)

First Saturdays-The Swamp owner has reported great success with this event. July 4th weekend was the largest he has seen.

Back to School Blast – opportunity the last Friday before schools started for elementary students to get free school supplies. We handed out erasers and other needed items to hundreds of children. We appreciated Beth and Woody Matthews' and Michelle Wetherbee and Steve Ayers' help that afternoon.

Scarecrows-Packets will be distributed to all businesses last week of Aug. until Sept.2. Banners will be hung by the city on Sept 2 and they will take down the flower baskets at the same time. Volunteers will pick up baskets and take them to Gretchen's where they will be reworked for Christmas baskets to be put up in early November.

Monster Mash-This year community non-profits will be handing out candy. Discussed schedule of 4-6, with 4-5 for candy distribution, 5-5:30 for dancing, 5:30-6:00 costume parade and prizes. Set up will help with flow of participants getting candy and signing up for books, etc.

DesignDebbie Ray, Chair (goal to get historic downtown Hartwell into top physical shape)

Baskets- see schedule above.

Constitution Alley- The committee is meeting next week to discuss the pricing of materials needed to renovate the alley. We will talk further with Earl Johnson, owner of ½ the alley, and the city, who owns the back part, about the funding of the improvements we hope to make. (Lighting, fencing, landscaping, etc.)

Courthouse Grounds- Henley reported we will get 3 estimates on an irrigation system to present to County Commission. We are hoping the Whitworth grounds crews and parole community service people will be able to help plant.

Crosswalks- While it has been too hot to paint our new designs on Depot St., we hope to put some of them down in time for Scarecrows

DOT Sign Boxes- We are still pursuing opportunity to talk with someone about having the ability to decorate these boxes that surround our square. Jim Martin may have some access, and we will contact him.

Economic Vitality: Michelle Wetherbee, Chairman (strengthen community's economic assets while diversifying the economic base)

Michelle announced she will be having more information on the **Build the Block** project at the next mtg. The small business workshop is being revamped. Michelle announced that The Table will be offering to-go box dinners for the Friday night football games.

Organization: Tina Howard, Chairman (Goal is to build partnerships among various groups that have a stake in the commercial district)

In Tina's absence, Henley announced the committee will be completing the job description for the new commission - based APP manager and sending it to the board this week.

The 2016 ornaments of the Dam are in and will be distributed.

Director's Report- Henley Cleary

The leases between the Bates/Bowers parties will be signed soon.

DDA awaits decision re the Candler-Linder house contract on Johnson St.

The sign ordinance committee will meet on Aug. 25th at 3:00.

We have received two estimates to replace roof on DDA office.

Stephanie Crump announced that the Blues Jam will be held this week at High Cotton, and a Kentucky country singer will be there the week of Aug. 27th.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Tammy Hutchinson
Secretary