



CITY OF FOREST PARK
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 06, 2023 at 5:30 PM
Council Chambers

Website: www.forestparkga.gov
Phone Number: (404) 363.2454

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
745 Forest Parkway
Forest Park, GA 30297

MINUTES

Angelyne Butler, *Chairwoman*
Nachae Jones, *Vice Chairwoman*
Jacklyn Faith, *Member*
Nancy Howard, *Member*
Tre Holland, *Member*
Dhaval Shah, *Member*
Eric Stallings, *Member*

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

Vice Chairwoman Nachae Jones called the Downtown Development Authority meeting on July 6, 2023, to order at 5:36pm.

PRESENT:

Angelyne Butler (arrived at 5:49pm)
Nachae Jones
Jacklyn Faith
Nancy Howard (arrived at 5:46pm)
Tre Holland
Eric Stallings

ALSO PRESENT:

Ricky L. Clark, Jr., City Manager
Bobby Jinks, Public Works Director
LaShawn Gardiner, Planning & Community Development Director
Michael Williams, City Attorney
Bruce Abraham, Economic Development Director
Charise Clay, Economic Development Staff Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of May 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Tre Holland made a motion to approve the May 25, 2023 meeting minutes. Jacklyn Faith seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

2. 751-771 Main Street Rental Rates & Relocation

Michael Williams, delivered the update:

- The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) recently acquired 751-771 Main Street in a property swap with the Development Authority (DA). Rentals rates for tenants in those units have been \$500 since the property's inception. He recommended that the board consider increasing the rental rates to the market rate to gain the full value of the property.

3. Activation of Main Street

Mr. Clark, delivered the update:

- Based on his observations, there doesn't seem to be a lot of activity on Main Street. He's been working internally to update text amendments for the current Entertainment District within the city, relative to open containers. He also wants to extend the progress to the arts, not just paintings but live music & entertainment. Hopefully this will increase citizens being active on Main Street.

Other Discussion: Botanical Garden En Blanc will be a celebration of the accomplishments within Mr. Clark's first 100 days and the activation of Main Street. All excess proceeds will be reinvested back into the beautification of the Downtown Main Street corridor. Beautification efforts include updating the banners around the city, ensuring that landscaping is constantly happening on Main Street and the complete overhaul of the area by the fountain. The event will take place on August 26. Sponsorships are available.

4. Beautification of Main Street

Mr. Clark, delivered the update:

- The city's Public Works Department isn't currently equipped to handle landscaping. He's been looking for a landscaping company that could manage the landscaping maintenance of the fountain area on Main Street. Once the quotes for landscaping have been received, they will be shared accordingly. The quote on irrigation was received at a price higher than expected, so an alternative solution is being constructed.

5. Arts & Entertainment District

Mr. Clark, delivered the update:

- The city currently has an Arts & Entertainment District that allows for open containers on Main Street. That will be expanded to include art, art activities, and festivals. This will go before the Planning Commission at their August meeting. The idea of an Arts Commission is also included in the expansion of arts & entertainment. The commission will be an appointed board that specializes in art and will assist the city with infusing art and culture into its' fabric.

6. GA Main Street Program

Mr. Clark, delivered the update:

- In order to incentivize businesses coming here, they are looking to participate in the Georgia Main Street Program. Being a standard member of the Main Street Program will be another tool the city can use when marketing itself for redevelopment. Participating in this program would require approval from the city council.

7. DDA Property Landscaping

- Chairwoman Butler wanted the board to consider demolishing a portion of the property they just acquired. She believes this will give investors a blank state when viewing the property. She asked Mr. Clark to gather demolition quotes to present to the board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Executive Session may be called for issues concerning Personnel, Litigation or Real Estate)

Jacklyn Faith made a motion to end the regular meeting and enter executive session at 6:01pm. Nachae Jones seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Nachae Jones made a motion to end the executive session at 7:11pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Tre Holland seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Jacklyn Faith made a motion to resend the offer made to sale the land to DJR Investment Group. Nachae Jones seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Jacklyn Faith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm. Eric Stallings seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 404-366-1555.