



Eastman Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors Minutes

Date: October 21st, 2024

Place: Eastman City Hall

Board of Directors Present: Andrea McCranie, Lorraine Aguayo, Paula McCain, Willie Nae Nash, Roy Grenade, **Attorney:** Rita Llop **Absent:** Sammy Young

Financial Report: Motion was made by Roy Grenade to accept the Financial Report as information. I with a second by Wynnon Pittman, motion carried

Minutes: Approved the minutes from the September 16th meeting, Wynnon made a motion to approve the minutes with adding to have the Minutes and Agenda in a timely manner with a second made by Paula McCain, motion carried.

Invocation: Wynnon Pittman

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by Chair Andrea McCranie

Approved Agenda: A motion was made by Roy Grenade to approve the Agenda as stated Wynnon Pittman seconded the motion, Motion carried.

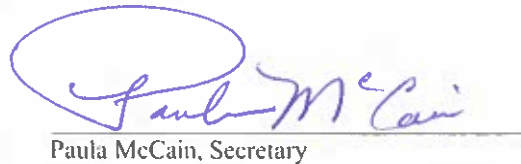
- Wynnon Pittman made a request to have the minutes and the agenda in a timely manner.
- Andrea informed the Board that Leave it Better has repaid their loan in the amount of 10,000 and it has been deposited into our account as of October 8th, 2024.
- Andrea informed the board that we need to revisit the current by-laws to address attendance. Paula suggested that we all read and review the current by-laws and note the things we need to make changes on and or add to our current by-laws.
- Lorraine requested more board participation on/in the DDA Events. We discussed adding that to the by-laws. Wynnon Pittman stated that we need to lean on Committees more. Wynnon also stated that everyone should participate either via telephone or in person.
- Andrea asked that everyone bring any amendments to the By-laws, to the next meeting.
- Lorraine asked that if we have an event and vote on and approve an event then everyone should do something to help with that event.
- Paula presented estimates on purchasing an ice skating rink rather than renting one. She stated that we would need help with purchase if we decided to go that route.
- Andrea stated that Wynnon, Paula were initially placed on the Event Committee. We decided to put the committees on the next Agenda.
- Wynnon asked if he had permission to go into the community to ask for help with the purchase of an ice skating rink. Paula stated that she would attend the next city workshop to present it to the city at that time. We are all in agreement that we need to move fast on this. We will make the ask to the City and the County to see if they would help with the cost of purchasing an ice skating rink. We will attend the next City workshop to present an estimate.
- We also discussed working with other organizations on some joint Christmas events. If anyone has any ideas please bring it to Wynnon and Paula. December 13-14 is the approximate date, which was discussed in the October meeting. A motion was made by Wynnon Pittman with a second by

Paula McCain. Motion Carried.

- We discussed the Alleyway project. We did receive an estimate for 59,000.00 to resurface the area. We need to send out bids 1st and then draw up an agreement between the business owners and us for permission to use the portion of the alley that each individual owns. But we do need to talk with each individual that owns a portion of the Alley. But we need to come up with an idea prior to getting a bid. Then we can discuss it with the city to talk about how much financial assistance we can possibly get.. Then we would have to draw up a lease with each business owner.
- We scheduled a work Session to discuss the Strategic plan at the September meeting.. Lorraine, Andrea and Paula were. The only ones who attended. Andrea decided that Lorraine, Andrea and Paula would be the liaison between the Regional Commission and the Authority. However that does not release anyone from helping and contributing. Roy made a motion to accept the Committee with a second by Willie Nae Nash.
- Andrea Spoke with Lynn Ashcroft with the DCA, and Sheree Bennett. They suggested setting a date to discuss programs that are available for anyone interested in starting up a business, facade grant, etc. to make them aware of how the process works. Andrea has scheduled a meeting with Lynn Ashcroft to discuss this further and possibly set a date.
- Roy and Willie Nae meet to discuss the facade grant from Southside Market. The Facade grant committee discussed that we do not give the applicants the money until after the project is done. The board approved the facade grant for Southside Market. The facade grant committee also recommended that we reduce the facade grant to 1,000.00 from 1,500.00 and only reward 3 per year. This will be discussed at the next DDA meeting.

Meeting adjourned


Andrea McCranie, Chair


Paula McCain, Secretary