

Barton Harris
Rex Harrison
Sydney Lynch

Downtown Development Authority

Shane Ridley
Don Townsend
Janet York

"Your City for Family Living"

City of Trenton

Incorporated 1854

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August 1, 2005

To: Commissioners – City of Trenton

Subject: Downtown Development Authority Monthly Status Report for July 2005

General Downtown Development Authority Items

Board addressed several organization related matters in July (see below). The inter-governmental agreement was presented to the mayor for consideration.

July 2005 Board Meeting Votes

1. Motion passed to approve the by-laws as presented for the DDA (see attached).
2. Motion passed to authorize the Promotion Committee to manage all food and service vendor matters for DDA promotional events.
3. Motion passed to approve the conflict of interest statement for DDA personnel (see attached).
4. Motion passed to adopt an Inter-Governmental Agreement with the City of Trenton (see attached).
5. Motion passed to adopt a DDA Mission and Vision Statement (see attached).

Promotion Committee

Rex Harrison is the chairperson of the Promotion Committee.

Tourist Information Updated

Worked with state of Georgia officials to update state web sites and other tourist related publications.

Summer Concert Series

Planning continues for summer concert series. July 23 Blue Grass concert postponed until September.

Process with application put in place to manage vendors for city park summer concerts.

Street Banners

See Design Committee report.

Design Committee

Shane Ridley is the new chairperson of the Design Committee. Pastor David Smith is the vice-chair

Street Banners

The Design Committee is responsible for street banners. Several proposals are in preparation for a new banner whose theme will be “Trenton, Your City for Family Living”. A sample of the proposed banner is attached.

Rehabilitated Buildings

Sydney Lynch has rehabilitated two building downtown and moved her business, Business Center of Trenton, into one of them. Those interested can tour her buildings. A landscape design proposal has been requested from the University of Georgia.

Parking Proposal

Janey Ettien, board member, has prepared a parking proposal to add some additional parking around square

City Entrance Signs

The Design Committee has undertaken a project to have entranceway signs for the City designed and erected. They would be at the four entrance points to the city. The design will be consistent with the natural beauty of the area and still meet DOT requirements. A northwest Georgia business has shown interest in preparing a bid. There has been no activity this month.

Christmas Lights

The DDA would like to see new Christmas lights for downtown. More discussions with the city will be sought on this subject.

Transportation Enhancement Grants

The Design Committee has accepted the responsibility to apply for grants for a creek walk along Town Creek and for a streetscape project in downtown. An architect has made a proposal for a

pro bono concept drawing of the walk. These grants require a 20% match by the City in either cash or in-kind services.

Overlay Design Rules

A proposal, to deal with metal buildings downtown, has been submitted to Barton Harris, as he requested.

Historic Preservation

A proposal for an Historic Preservation Commission was submitted to mayor, for consideration.

Other Signage

The Committee continues to hold as an action items additional and better signage at the I-59 exits and elsewhere in town.

Economic Restructuring Committee

Allan Ward is the new chairperson of the Economic Restructuring Committee.

Existing Business in Trenton

See “Planning” below.

Planning

The committee will provide a “New Business Package” that would be used for new potential retail business owners. The package would provide relevant information about the City and its environs that would be critical to any business owner wanting to open a retail business in Trenton. Such information as demographics, income, traffic, available retail space etc would be part of this package. No activity this month.

Business Brochure and Map

The committee has met about developing an “Existing Business Brochure and Map”. The Chamber of Commerce has agreed to partner on this project. We met with the Coosa Valley RDC representative and they can provide both a city and county map for use in this project. They can also add whatever notation we would like for businesses and points of interest. This would be free to us. We would need to arrange for printing of the maps. Ads will be sold to fund the activity.

Assistance to Downtown Business

The board assisted the owner of Bottom Dollar Discount in his request for zoning variances for his proposed new business location.

Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Arranged for Nancy Johnston of DCA to visit Trenton in August to review funding sources for possible rehabilitation of downtown buildings.

Organization Committee

Janet York is the chairperson of the Organization Committee.

Downtown Definition

The committee agreed to a new definition of “downtown” as defined for the DDA. The city commission will be asked to approve that new definition at September 2005 city commission meeting.

Local Banks Role

The July 25 meeting between the DDA, DCA representative and our local banks to discuss the role of the banks in the supporting the agenda of the DDA was postponed because of the illness of the DCA representative. The meeting will be rescheduled.

Downtown Development Authority Meeting Schedule

The regular monthly meeting is the third Thursday of every month here at City Hall starting at 5 PM. The next meeting is August 18, 2005.

Peter Cervelli
Better Hometown Manager
City of Trenton