

# Downtown Development Authority

Janey Ettien

Don Townsend

Barton Harris

"Your City for Family Living"

Allan Ward

Rex Harrison

*City of Trenton*

Janet York

Incorporated 1854

P.O. Box 518 • Trenton, Georgia 30752

Telephone (706) 657-4167

**October 2, 2006**

**To: Commissioners – City of Trenton**

**Subject: Downtown Development Authority Monthly Status Report for September 2006**

## **General Downtown Development Authority Items**

### **September 2006 Board Meeting Votes (Motions Passed)**

1. To accept minutes and financial report
2. To authorize the expenditure of a \$100.00 filing fee for the incorporation of "The Trenton Downtown Alliance, Inc." and to authorize the expenditure of a \$40.00 fee to publish the required notice in the legal organ of the county.
3. To authorize the expenditure of a \$300.00 filing fee for the 501c3 application to the IRS for the "Trenton Downtown Alliance, Inc."
4. To pay Bill Bankson \$50.00 for work on the DDA website

## **Promotion Committee**

Rex Harrison is the chairperson of the Promotion Committee.

### **Fall Festival 2006**

- *The Dade County Pumpkin Patch Parade & Festival* is currently being planned that will take place October 28 and 29. In addition to the pumpkin carving event the Sheriff's office sponsors, there will be a scarecrow contest, and dogs-in-costume parade, and refreshments. See attached press release and contest entry form.

## **Chickamauga Campaign Heritage**

- Negotiations are underway on placement of two additional Chickamauga Campaign Heritage Trail signs. The two Trenton sites are:
  - The Macon Iron Works
  - The O’Neal House
- The Chickamauga Campaign Heritage Trail Committee has been working on a website, which will support tourism with all the historical marker information. The next to final version is available at <http://www.chickamaugacampaign.org/preview2/> . The website includes the Trenton and Dade County sites. Click on “Tour Information”, “Dade County”.

## **Northwest Georgia Pedestrian and Biking Task Force**

- A meeting has been scheduled for October 17, 2006 at 10 AM at Trenton City Hall with Mr. Bill Moll, chairperson of the above named task force. The meeting will address biking related issues, including official state bike routes through our area.

## **Christmas in the Park**

- Initial planning has begun.

## **Design Committee**

The chair of this committee is Vickie Seymour.

## **Façade Grant Program**

- A façade grant program for 2006 is underway for downtown Trenton. Grants can run up to \$4,500. At least three downtown businesses either have applied for or are in the process of preparing façade grant details for submittal. The Façade Grant Committee has not made any decisions yet on who will receive a grant.
- Trenton’s Better Hometown Program arranged for design work to be done for a proposed façade design for Case Hardware by the University of Georgia. This service is available to all downtown businesses.

## **City Entranceway Signs**

- The Design Committee has made a recommendation to the Mayor on the design of an entranceway sign for the City. An example of the general design is attached. The objective is to order four (4) signs, one for each directional entrance to the City.

## **Streetscape and Creek Walk.**

- Update to Outline below:
  - Mayor will meet with GDOT on October 6, 2006 to bring them into the process
  - Mike Evans, Chairman of GDOT Board, and Senator Mullis will be here on October 10, 2006 at 11 AM to bring them into the process.
  - The City now has the rights to use the State of Georgia Bid Request System. This work will be advertised there so the City gets full credit for any money spent on this project.
- General Outline: The DDA is anticipating that in 2007 the City can apply for a Transportation Enhancement Grant that would fund, in part, a Streetscape project for downtown and a Town Creek Walk. To that end,
  - The Committee Design has met with the Mayor and has obtained a go-ahead to start serious planning for the project.
  - Committee members have met with John Culpepper of Chickamauga for his advice and counsel and to learn from Chickamauga's successful grant application for their streetscape.
  - Committee members have also met with Senator Mullis to enlist his support, which he has given.
  - Mayor will meet with GDOT on October 6, 2006 to bring them into the process
  - A preliminary easement study has been done
  - Plans are underway to create an organizing committee of City residents, business and property owners, and a representative(s) of the City Street Department.
  - A Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Grant will be sought for use in partial funding of a Town Creek Walk. Preliminary work has begun on the grant. That grant can be applied for at any time.
  - Plans are underway for a *Request for Qualifications* (RFQ) which will seek out qualified engineering firms for this project (see attached proposed list of firms).

## **Historic Preservation Commission**

- This activity is pending.

## **Downtown Building Design Criteria**

- The recommendation has been submitted to the City attorney for the development of a proposed ordinance.

## **Economic Restructuring Committee**

Allan Ward is the chairperson of the Economic Restructuring Committee.

### **Seeking New Downtown Businesses and Development**

Project 1- Status Unchanged.

- A new technology business is currently being courted for the Trenton Industrial Park. We have met with the business owner who is evaluating options. The business is currently located outside of Georgia. The NWGAJDA is handling the details. Plans are confidential, at this point.

Project 2 – Status Project Active and Progressing

- The committee continues working with a developer for advice and counsel on development potentials for downtown. A plan is under development for this project. Details are still confidential.

Project 3 – Status Closed.

- The committee is working on a project to bring a new business into downtown.

### **Building Inventory**

A building inventory for Main Street buildings is under development

## **Organization Committee**

Janet York is the chairperson of the Organization Committee.

### **Grants**

- See DNR grant above under **Streetscape and Creek Walk**

### **Non-Profit Status**

- The *Trenton Downtown Alliance* has been incorporated in the State of Georgia as a non-profit corporation.
- The *Trenton Downtown Alliance* has obtained an EIN from the IRS.
- Papers will be filed with the IRS this week for 501c3 non-profit status.
- 501c3 status will provide an additional tool for downtown development.

## **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 October 19, 2006.

Peter Cervelli  
Better Hometown Manager  
City of Trenton

## **Streetscape / Town Creek Walk RFQ for Engineering Consultants**

As a first step in the process of concept development, an engineering consultant must be chosen.

The consultant selection process approved by GA\DoT must be used so that consultant fees paid by Trenton would be able to count as matching money toward federal reimbursement funds.

Georgia uses a “Qualifications-Based Selection” system for consultants. Details can be found at the GA\DoT website as well as Official Code of Georgia Annotated 50-22-6. This is a list of some pre-qualified consultants that the City Commission may want to consider in its Request for Qualifications:

1. ARCADIS, G&M, Inc.
2. Barge, Waggoner, Sumner & Cannon
3. Jordan, Jones & Goulding, Inc.
4. Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
5. PBS&J, Inc.
6. Volkert & Associates
7. Wilbur Smith Associates, Inc.
8. Woolpert, LLP

**Do the commissioners have any others they would want added to the list?**