

**DOTHAN DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2021**

The Dothan Downtown Redevelopment Authority (DDRA) held its regular meeting on Wednesday, **April 21, 2021**, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Dothan Civic Center.

Members Present:

Pat Thomas, Chair
David "Mit" Kirkland, Vice-Chair
Susan Wilkins, Secretary
Letetia Jackson, Treasurer
Bob Woodall
Deavours Clark

Members Absent:

Cliff Mendheim

Others Present: Jamie Bienvenu, DDRA Director; Kevin A. Cowper, AICP, ICMA-CM, City Manager; Randall Morris, P.E., Assistant City Manager; Todd McDonald, AICP, Director of Planning and Development; and, Theresa Eddy, Secretary.

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Approve Minutes of March 17, 2021.

Ms. Wilkins motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Woodall seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Old Business

A. Projects - None

ii. **Other Old Business – None**

3. New Business

A. Finance & Investment Committee Report

i. Financial Statement Review

Ms. Wilkins submitted expenses for approval.

ii. Expenses for Approval

The fiscal year 2021: October 2020 – September 2021

March 16, 2021, to April 19, 2021

Pre-approved Expenses	\$28,691.00
Non-Reoccurring Expenses:	\$ 5,112.43
Reoccurring Expenses:	\$ 2,972.99
Total Pending Expenses:	\$36,776.42

Ms. Wilkins made a motion to approve, Mr. Woodall seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Projects Committee Report

- i. Mr. Morris stated that there were three properties the City would like to donate to the DDRA. The DDRA would oversee the transition of ownership.
 - a. The property next door to Aunt Katie's Garden – underwent a Brownfield clean up – Garden expansion – Mr. Jackson.
 - b. Grandview School – Mr. Reese, a retired NFL Flag Football player, would like to utilize the school for a Youth Center for Flag Football training and at the Wiregrass Park through Leisure Services.
 - c. Ballpark on Alice Street – Community Center - Wiregrass Boys & Girls Club.

C. Personnel Committee Report

- i. None

D. Executive Director's Report

– By DDRA Director, Jamie Bienvenu

- i. **Veteran's Banner Campaign** – Ms. Bienvenu spoke to the Kiwanis Group and sold two banners. Ms. Bienvenu spoke with the local VFW and they talked about sponsoring banners. Presently, the banners are \$300.00 for the first year and then \$100.00 the following year. Mr. Woodall expressed that he would like to participate in a sponsorship program. The banners will hang from Memorial Day to Labor Day. They are still open to purchase through to Labor Day. They will hang them in batches. Once they start hanging them and people start seeing them, sales should go up.
- ii. **Scouts Alley Project** – This project is underway with the first stage of the murals going on the wall. The press will be covering the event, everyone will find information on the social media pages, and the school system is filming the event. The students showcasing their public artwork will have this on their resumes when they graduate high school. This was not an opportunity that they normally have. The students are already receiving internship opportunities from local businesses because of this project. Ms. Bienvenu stated that she will be working on putting a short biography of each student together to showcase with their artwork.
- iii. **The Hump:** They are working with AIRO' Design on another public mural art piece for this location.
- iv. **Farmer's Market** – They are presently working on a rendering with an architect to use and promote to start fundraising. They added dates to the market starting on May 15. They plan on having an October market. Promotions to start soon.

E. Main Street Committee Report –

- i. **Community Sidewalk Events on chosen Saturday's**
 - End of May – Family-friendly fun event is scheduled.
 - End of Summer, in August – Another family-friendly event is scheduled.
- ii. **Dream Dothan** – There will be another artwork mural on the Juvenile Building and there is another mural of Love Dothan that will be visible from Foster Street. Wes Hardin will be involved with this project. Ms. Bienvenu is discussing all of this with the Planning Department regarding anything that would need to be approved by the Historic Preservation Commission. Ms. Bienvenu will be checking with the city if they could change the logo. Ms. Wilkins asked where this would fall within the budget. Ms. Bienvenu responded that the artwork for the mural and windows will fall under the Main Street Budget that was already approved for the fiscal year.
- iii. **Scouts Alley:** They are in discussion with Martin Environmental to remove the corral and replace it with esthetically pleasing bins.

F. Strategic Plan Updates

G. Other New Business

- i. **Expansion of the DDRA District Boundaries.**

The expansion request came to fruition because the DDRA was running out of buildings to provide the Façade, F.O.G., and Fire Protection Grants to. They

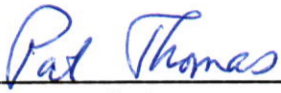
would like to expand outward to offer these grants to other residential and commercial businesses in Dothan. The area map was suggested to be expanded East to Oates Street, West to Appletree Street, North to East Powell Street, South to E. South Port Street. Chair Thomas asked for a motion, Mr. Woodall recused himself. ***Ms. Jackson made a motion to recommend the DDRA District map expansion to the City Commission with a recommendation of approval, Ms. Wilkins seconded, and the motion carried.***

4. **Discussion for the Next Meeting Date:** May 19, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.


5. **Adjourn**

Ms. Jackson made a motion to adjourn, Ms. Wilkins seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

6. **Privileges of the Floor**



Pat Thomas, Chairman



Susan Wilkins, Secretary