

**GEORGIA DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MACON, GEORGIA
FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

Present

Board Members (Virtually): Ellen Hill, April Norton, Ricky Clark, Monica Rentfrow, Abigail Strickland, Aundi Lesley, Christian Hamilton, Emily Hopkins, Jeffrey Fowler, Kendrick Ward, Tonya Parker.

Partners: Tara Bradshaw, Cindy Eidson, Elizabeth Elliott, Jessica Worthington, and Leigh Burns.

Staff (Virtually): Emily Davenport and Sharon Collins

Call to Order

President Ellen Hill called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The meetings of the November and January meetings were presented. They were approved with a motion from Abigail Strickland and seconded by April Norton.

Review and Approval of Financial Report

The financial reports were presented as of December 31, 2021 by Emily Davenport. It was mentioned the finances would be quicker as we move forward as the team is getting back into the swing after COVID-19. The financials were approved with a motion from Ricky Clark and seconded by April Norton.

Committee Reports

Internal – President Hill announced leaving her position in Valdosta which brought up the Officer changes for 2022. It was decided that April Norton and Jeffrey Fowler would move up to the next position as President and Vice President. The Board of Directors would need to approve a new Secretary/Treasurer. A motion was presented by Monica Rentfrow and Kendrick Ward and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors. Vacant board member positions were also discussed, Emily agreed to send out information to the Board of Directors with information on individuals who are qualified to serve on the Board and as Secretary/Treasurer. The Workplan items were reviewed briefly with little discussion. Emily Hopkins gave a brief report on the upcoming conference with little changes at this time.

Education – Jeffrey Fowler announced that he would be taking over the Mentor Program and would be working to get a more detailed update by the next Board meeting. Ellen Hill gave a brief overview of the GDDP and announced that Georgia Power had agreed to sponsor 1/3 of the program. They are also looking to provide sponsorships in the future as well. Jeffrey Fowler updated the board on the regional meetings. Elizabeth Elliott is working to coordinate all the dates with the local community and would have a more detailed report available for the March meeting.

Membership / Marketing - April Norton gave a brief overview of the upcoming website upgrades. They should be finished soon. April asked that all Board of Directors go ahead and get their membership paid for the current year so we can announce that all Board members have a 100% renewal rate. Marketing was discussed briefly.

Legislative – Ricky Clark gave a brief overview of the current legislative session. The sunseting of the historic tax credits for Georgia, and the Entertainment Casino legislation was discussed.

Staff Updates

Emily Davenport shared that there are no updates at this time, but did ask for a list of the board members who would like to receive a GDA notebook / binder.

Partner Updates

Updates were then presented from the Georgia Main Street program, Georgia Cities Foundation, and the Fox Theatre Institute.

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Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned with a motion from Tonya Parker, and Aundi Lesley.