



City of Walnut Grove Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of the
September 26, 2023, Downtown Development Authority Meeting
Church of the Grove

Directors Present:

Russ Butcher
Erica Miles
Sarah Tuchscherer
Rachel Davis
Joel Henderson

Guests Present:

Karen Reagin

Directors Absent:

Billy Coleman
Desi Borgh

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Russ Butcher called the meeting to order.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. INVOCATION
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Erica Miles made a motion to amend the agenda with the change of voting on the invoice submitted by Andrea Gray under New Business item C. Rachel Davis seconded. All in favor.

Russ made a motion to approve the Amended Agenda. Rachel Davis seconded. All in favor.

- V. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Rachel Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2023 work session. Sarah Tuchscherer seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Georgia Economic Placemaking Collaborative (GEPC) 2024

Rachel presented the Placemaking Collaborative as well as the funding of the Collaborative. The funding if chosen would be \$500 per year plus any travel. Year one would include education, visioning, and planning. Year two would be development projects, funding and implementation of those projects and impact analysis. Selection for the collaborative will be done on December 29, 2023.

Erica Miles made a motion to approve the two year Georgia Economic Collaborative budget of \$500 per year for the next two years plus travel in the event that Walnut Grove is chosen to participate in this program. Rachel Davis seconded the motion. Russ Butcher, Erica Miles, Joel Henderson, Rachel Davis voted in favor. Sarah Tuchscherer abstained.

B. Georgia Rural Workforce Housing Initiative

Rachel Davis explained this is a grant and tool the city can take advantage of to fill the gap in workforce housing. The state is currently 150,000 houses short of homes and Walton County is expected to have a large amount of new jobs in the next year.

C. Invoice from Andrea Gray

Erica Miles made a motion to approve the payment of \$780.00 to the Law Office of Andrea Gray. Rachel Davis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

VIII. Audience Comments: Karen Reagin stated that she thinks the DDA is moving in the right direction and taking things slow and that's important for our community.

IX. DDA Comments:

X. ADJOURN

- Rachel Davis made a motion to adjourn. Erica Miles seconded. All in favor.