



CITY OF LARAMIE
P.O. Box C
Laramie, WY 82073

Downtown Development Authority Board Minutes

June 13, 2023

4:00 PM

City Conference Room, 411 Grand Ave

Attendees:

DDA Board: Jay Bond, Tom Haas, Marty Oblasser, Christina Hiegel (by phone)

LMSA:

City Council Liaison: Micah Richardson

City:

Meeting called to order at 4:10 p.m.

Introductions: None needed for this meeting

Regular Agenda:

Approval of May Minutes: Motion was made to approve by Marty and Tom seconded. Motioned was passed unanimously.

DDA History Review for New Members (If Needed): Not needed for this meeting

Main Street Director's Report: Tom read the Director's report

1. Christina gave an update on the Boutique Hotel project
2. It was discussed that the update to the 2012 Downtown Development Plan needs to be driven by input from downtown building and business owners so it has a better chance of buy in and support by the downtown community.

Open Items/Old Business:

1. **Finalize/Adopt Mission Statement:** We spent some time revising the draft mission statement in the meeting one final time and Jay motioned and Marty seconded to approve it. It was unanimously approved. It states: "*The Laramie Downtown Development Authority (DDA) partners with businesses, property owners, and other organizations to plan and resource the restoration, economic growth, and improvement of our historic downtown district.*"
2. **Planning Team Update:** Jessica had spoken to Marty prior to the meeting and said she would send out an email update to the committee. Micah mentioned that the city is interested in hiring the same consultant to update the 2012 plan and passed a budget last week that includes funding for this. Micah also mentioned that the city's intent is that the consultant begins by the end of August. There was discussion around making sure the planning process includes a survey of our downtown business and building owners and that we should summarize the 2012 plan and send it out to downtown building and business owners for their input. Marty volunteered to develop the summarized mailer of the 2012 plan. Jay said he will ask the LMSA for funding for the mail out. Marty mentioned that she had spoken with the city about installing parking meters in the downtown area as a source of revenue for the DDA. It was discussed that this could alleviate some business owner concerns that there is not enough parking in front of their store fronts to draw in customers. All agreed this would be a worthy effort to pursue, but nothing was decided on how to begin this effort.

3. Establish DDA Goal(s) for 2023: The discussion in regard to DDA goals for 2023 centered around getting downtown building and business owners to engage and buy in to a planning effort to revitalize the 2012 downtown development plan. The DDA drafted one goal for 2023 below. Implementation of this goal will begin with a mailer summarizing the 2012 plan and may also involve other engagement activities later in the year.

- a. Engage downtown business and building owners for their input to a revised/revitalized downtown development plan in order to inform planning efforts.

4. Additional Comments:

- a. 3,2,1 3rd St discussion is going on tonight. It will be recorded for those who would like to listen in.

Upcoming Items/New Business:

1. Upcoming events: See LMSA website
2. Public comment: None

Meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Next Regular Meeting Date:

July 11, 2023 @ 4pm – City Conference Room, 411 Grand Ave.

DDA Board Responsibilities:

- Assists in development and redevelopment of central business district
- Assists in overall planning to restore and/or provide for continuance of health of Laramie's central business district
- Prevents / halts deterioration of property values and/or structures within the Laramie central business district
- Prevents / halts growth of blighted areas in the central business district
- Promotes health, safety, prosperity, security, and general welfare of inhabitants of the central business district