

City of Lake Charles

Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority LDS

City Council Chambers – City Hall – 326 Pujo St.

Monday April 4, 2022 at 5:30 P.M.

**DDA Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 5:34 P.M. by Ms. Dianna Ross

Asked commissioners, Staff and Public to please going in saying The Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Ross asked for a Roll Call – Called by Beth Broussard

* In Attendance: Dean Day, Dianna Ross, Nathaniel Allured, Jay Ecker, Sara Lasher, Zita Andrus

Absent: Jackie Simien

Approval of the February 7, 2022 minutes. Dean Day motioned to accept, Jay Ecker 2nd the motion

Ms. Dianna Ross asked the members of the DDA to introduce themselves and their credentials:

Nathaniel Allured

Zita Andrus

Dean Day

Sara Lasher

Jay Ecker

Dianna Ross

* **Directors Report**

Ms. Marinovich update: The Old Rigmaiden Hotel has been demolished, making way for new development. Several other structures in the downtown area that are currently under renovation, or have plans for renovation.

Ms. Dianna Ross moved to Resolution 2022-007

**Approve Resolution 2022-007**

* **DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION – RESOLUTION 2022-007**
  + **June 18, 2022 Summer themed/Better Block concept**
  + **Oct. 29, 2022 Candy Crawl, expansion with Block Party**
  + **November 26, 2022 Small Business Saturday / With Holiday Art Walk**

Mr. Logan Fontenot, 1108 8th Street, attended to speak on Resolution 2022-007. He spoke on the DBA and the block party areas. The events, music, kid activities zone, food trucks, etc. Starting small, hopefully to grow. Hoping to collaborate with other events going on. This would present a lot more foot traffic in downtown. Ms. Ross spoke on the June 19th activities, all-coming together.

Ms. Ross asked for motion to approve Resolution 2022-007, Dean Day motioned to approve, Nathaniel Allured 2nd the motion. All in favor

The Commissioners had a discussion on several issues; Nathaniel Allured spoke on making a difference

Downtown, His idea on increasing foot traffic in downtown, perhaps look into making the district open

Container friendly. He feels that the DDA as a board could put together a recommendation to put in front

Of the City Council. He proposes DDA form a committee and take steps to create a formal recommendation

To the Council, in support of amending the alcohol ordinances to allow open container traffic within the district.

Have a discussion of District boundaries. Jay Ecker asked if there would be resistance from the residential areas.

Buying spirits on Sunday was also addressed; All would like to see that go away.

A committee was chosen to look into it and lay it out; the committee will be Nathaniel to lead, Jay Ecker, and Zita Andrus. Dean Day motioned to accept the committee, Sara Lasher 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Marinovich will get the commissioners a summary of the codes. Ms. Marinovich discussed web programs, for social media, Dean Day will help with that. Jay Ecker asked for a motion to have a representative from “Just

Imagine” to speak at a DDA meeting. Dean Day 2nd motion. All in favor.

Ms. Ross asked that the commissioners be more involved, to be there, to show up more. Let the people know

That the DDA exist. Relationships need to be built, not only community but to the administration.

Ms. Ross announced the Chuck fest has moved from Oct. 15, 2022 to Oct. 22, 2022. Nathaniel Allured motioned

To affirm the date change, Dean Day 2nd the motion. All in favor.

Dean Day gave an update on the Pirates Festival. Jay Ecker announced The Panorama Music House would have

There Grand Opening this coming weekend.

Ms. Ross adjourned the meeting at 6:18