

**A regular meeting of the Downtown Development Authority for the City of Bessemer  
was held in the DDA meeting room on  
Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 4:00**

Present: Filippini, Zak, Osier, Whitburn, O’Sullivan, Bjorkquist

Absent: Hamilton, Durkee, Leskoviansky,

A quorum was present

Osier made the motion to approve the minutes from October’s meeting. Zak seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor.

The board welcomed Bridget O’Sullivan and Kara Bjorkquist to the committee.

- 1) The board discussed the article pertaining to who shows up to Public meetings
- 2) The board discussed the financials
- 3) Jodi Anderson with Remember This Antique Mall presented her business plan. The board asked her several questions. Osier made a motion to provide rental reimbursement of \$500/ month for 6 months and \$500 worth of fixed improvements on a 1:1 cash match basis. Filippini seconded it and yeses: Filippini, Zak, Osier, Whitburn, O’Sullivan, Bjorkquist nos: none It passed unanimously
- 4) Ken Billings presented his business plan for Ken’s Old Tyme Barber Shop. The board asked him several questions. Zak made a motion to provide rental reimbursement of \$350/ month for 6 months and \$500 worth of fixed improvements on a 1:1 cash match basis. O’Sullivan seconded it and yeses: Filippini, Zak, Osier, Whitburn, O’Sullivan, Bjorkquist nos: none It passed unanimously
- 5) Louis Campos presented his business updates on his business “From the Woods” and requested an additional month of rental reimbursement in the amount of \$500. Zak made a motion to provide one more month of rental reimbursement in the amount of \$500 to Louis Campos. Osier seconded it. yeses: Filippini, Zak, Osier, O’Sullivan, Bjorkquist nos: none abstain: Whitburn It passed unanimously
- 6)

Item	Description	Responsible Individual	Action Steps
Lights in Ethnic Commons Park	Determine if we should replace next spring with LED		Waiting until spring
First Impression Tourism	Discussed funding for signage, maps, and painting store front windows. Discussed updating a few banners to use as wayfinding		DDA wants number of signs, locations, and costs. Also requested the map in ethnic common’s gets updated
Christmas Lights	Should we purchase them now for next winter		Look into LED Café white lights to

			string across street at least 14' high. Look for other lights for trees
Broadband in downtown	Update		Charly has reached out to a private company
Clearing sidewalk in winter	Discussed setting aside funds for skidsteer to clear sidewalks in 2021. Also discussed bidding the clearing of sidewalks out	Zak	Looking into costs
Parking	Discussed whether there is a need for more parking and if so where it should go		Looking into location and costs
Expanding PopUp Shop program			

- 7) The board discussed the 2019 schedule. There were no changes made. Zak made a motion to approve it. O'Sullivan seconded it and it passed unanimously.
- 8) The board discussed the plan. Filippini discussed a need to expand the PopUp shop program.
- 9) Zak made a motion to have Staff look into a rough estimate for expanding parking in the downtown and explore parking by the grocery store, the historical society, Abelman's and the Historical Society. O'Sullivan seconded it and it passed unanimously.
- 10) As public comment Jodi Anderson requested the DDA explore signage or having a billboard for downtown businesses. Chris Cody mentioned a need for parking in the downtown.
- 11) Zak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Osier seconded it and it passed unanimously.