

**A regular meeting of the Downtown Development Authority for the City of Bessemer
was held in the DDA meeting room on
Thursday, March 14th, 2019 at 4:00**

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

Absent: Whitburn, Durkee, Leskoviansky,

A quorum was present

Osier made the motion to approve the minutes from February’s meeting. O’Sullivan seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor.

- 1) The board discussed the article pertaining to retail businesses still doing well in storefronts.
- 2) The board discussed the financials. Filippini made a motion to accept the financials and place them on file. O’Sullivan seconded it and it passed unanimously.
- 3) The Box presented their business plan and requested 6 months of rent at \$500/ month and up to \$500 for fixed building improvements on a 1:1 cash match basis. O’Sullivan made a motion to give The Box 6 months of rent at \$500/ month and up to \$500 on a 1:1 cash match basis for fixed building improvements when Staff verifies that the business was transferred. Osier seconded it and yeases: Filippini, Zak, Osier, O’Sullivan, Bjorkquist No: None It passed.

4)

1)

Item	Description	Responsible Individual	Action Steps
Lights in Ethnic Commons	Determine if we should replace next spring with LED		
First Impression Tourism			
Wayfinding on US-2	Discuss Mine St lot, ROW 5.5 blocks east of downtown, update banner. 4’ by 4’ sign costs \$120-\$150 plus poles	Charly	Design Sign
Christmas lights	Discuss lights to purchase	Bridget, Dustin, and Charly meet up to discuss	
Broadband in Downtown	Update	Charly	Reach out to apartments for fiber
Marketing Grant Opportunity	Apply for grant		
Co-working Spaces Downtown/	Look into assisting with marketing/ advertising		

Expanding PopUp Shop Program			
Parking Lot	Very rough estimates for expanding historical society lot \$12,000, reached out to old big dollar about utilizing their lot and haven't heard back		Look at plowing lot next to abelmans
Clearing Sidewalks in winter starting 2021	Estimated cost of used Skidsteer with attachments is \$50,000. Look at swept attachment. City draft a contract between DDA and City	Charly	Update contract and send to attorney
Ethnic Commons access	Reach out to Ruotsola for estimate to cut 2 or 3 entrances into wall		

5) Zak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Osier seconded it and it passed unanimously.