

# TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOURISM DEVELOPEMNT AUTHORITY

## MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 12, 2023

Present: Chair Connie Grubermann, Members Amie Owens, Hannah Edwards, Guy Gooder, Angela Martin, Rob Reale, and Josh Drake (arrived at 5:37).

Others present: Nicole Bradley, HR Director/Town Clerk  
Mia Overton, The Franklin Press  
Dan Finnerty, Macon County News  
Brooke Reale, Streets of Franklin  
Marie Roberts, Streets of Franklin

1. **Call to Order- Chair Connie Grubermann**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Welcome and Introductions for New Members**

Everyone in attendance took the opportunity to introduce themselves.

3. **Approval of the May 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

***Member Guy Gooder made a motion, seconded by Member Amie Owens to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6-0.***

4. **Financial Reports- ending April 2023**

Town Manager Amie Owens presented the Financial Report thru the end of April 2023. She noted that April 2023 was the second highest April on record, (\$14,428.14).

Total expenses thus far \$191,999.48 leaving the balance of \$73,350.52 and \$157,344.44 remains in TDA Fund Balance. The report is incorporated into these minutes as Exhibit A.

***Member Angela Martin made a motion, seconded by Member Rob Reale to approve the financial report ending April 2023. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.***

5. **New Business**

A.) New Applications for consideration:

1. Request for TDA support from The Streets of Franklin Heritage Association- 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Heritage Festival- July 10, 2023. The requested amount is \$3,207.

Marie Roberts and Brooke Reale, Streets of Franklin Heritage Association presented an application for funding. The request is for \$3,207. The festival will celebrate Appalachian heritage. The funds would be used to market the event. Last year the event was supported by the TDA with a \$3,000 contribution. This item will be voted on at the July 10, 2023 meeting.

B.) Voting on the following request:

1. Request for TDA support from Smoky Mountain Shrine Club- 80s Flashback Weekend to be held on August 4 & 5, 2023. The requested amount is \$5,000.

***Member Josh Drake made a motion, seconded by Member Hannah Edwards to approve the funding of \$1,250 for print and radio media. Motion carried by a vote of 6-1. Town Manager Owens voted against the motion.***

2. Request for TDA support for Folk Heritage Association of Macon County- Annual Franklin Area Folk Festival- August 19, 2023. The requested amount is \$2,000.

***Member Josh Drake made a motion to fund \$1,900 for the event. There was not a second, therefore the motion died.***

***Member Angela Martin made a motion, seconded by Member Amie Owens to approve the funding of \$2,000 as requested. Motion carried by a vote of 5-1. Member Josh Drake abstained from the vote.***

C.) Approval of FY 2023/2024 Budget Ordinance

Discussion was had on the marketing cost in the proposed budget. Chair Connie Grubermann explained that the service is provided by Drake Enterprises free of charge and that Carly Moser presents marketing data/reports to the board periodically.

***Member Josh Drake made a motion, seconded by Member Guy Gooder to approve the TDA budget of \$265,000. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.***

**Continued Business**

As this was the last meeting of the fiscal year, Member Josh Drake asked that the group vote on the request from Streets of Franklin Heritage Association related to funding for the Hometown Heritage Festival. There was discussion related to the timing of the approval, but the group determined that the vote could move forward.

***Member Guy Gooder made a motion, seconded by Member Hannah Edwards to approve funding of \$3,000 for the Streets of Franklin Heritage Association 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Heritage Festival. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.***

6. **Items from the Board**

There were no additional items from the Board.

7. **Announcements**

A.) The next regular scheduled TDA meeting will be held on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room.

8. **Adjourn**

***Member Josh Drake made a motion, seconded by Member Hannah Edwards to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.***

---

Connie Grubermann, Chairperson

---

Nicole Bradley, Town Clerk