



MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TOWN HALL MEETING
Wednesday, June 1st – 5:30pm – 8:00pm
Arts Garage
94 NE 2nd Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444

Reception/Checkin:

- **Attendee #: estimated 100 people**
- **Restaurant Sponsors: Atlantic Grille, Rocco's Tacos, Roses Daughter**

Meeting

- Welcome and Opening Comments and DDA Overview Presentation by Laura Simon
- Open Round Table Discussion:
 1. HOW ARE WE, THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DOING?

According to the public in general, the DDA shows a good performance on the tasks under its umbrella, and the public is glad that there is a Downtown Development Authority in Delray Beach. The DDA creates a great small-town and community feeling. Furthermore, the DDA has been helpful in onboarding and supporting new businesses arriving in town and in helping market the businesses in the downtown area.
 2. WHAT (MORE) CAN THE DDA BE DOING FOR THE DOWNTOWN?
 - Placemaking:
 - Create opportunities for more and diversified events to take place in Downtown Delray Beach
 - Create an online calendar that gathers all City events
 - Create an online Volunteer Calendar
 - Promote clean means of transportation (advocate for bike rentals services, bicycle paths and parking for bicycles)
 - Advocate to solve the loud noise on Atlantic Avenue coming from traffic and music
 - Advocate for a solution to traffic congestion on Atlantic Avenue (especially in the intersection of Swinton Avenue with Atlantic Avenue). Put on perspective the idea of closing Atlantic Avenue to vehicular traffic as a way to fix this issue.
 - Create a downtown Wi-Fi System
 - Create phone charging stations
 - Advocate for more native plant green spaces
 - Advocate to solve the calcification in the water system

• Economic Vitality:

- Help improve cleanliness in the downtown area (ideas: create a "green initiative" to incentive all businesses to use biodegradable materials, especially to go items; advocate for more trash cans to be placed around downtown)
- Advocate for a uniform and cohesive development system throughout all downtown area (opposed to West Atlantic less developed and East of Swinton more developed)
- Be more active on business recruitment (in collaboration with other City partners such as the City Team and the Community Redevelopment Agency) to solve the issue of long-time vacant storefronts and advocate for temporary pop-up art on vacant storefronts
- Advocate for more attractions along the Intracoastal Waterway
- Empower the Delray Beach Tennis Center as a great sports center venue
- Highlight the Art Community scene
- Promote the creation of more Al Fresco dining
- Help market and redevelop the West Atlantic area. Some ideas are:
 - Improve communications with the organizations on the West Atlantic (preferred means of communication are email, text and through social media -Facebook)
 - Have more activations happening on this area
 - Help improve cleanliness of the area (especially the critical area of Libby Wesley Plaza)
 - Place digital signage to communicate City events on the West Atlantic area

• Connect:

- Use development sites fencing as a promoting tool

3. HOW WOULD YOU RANK THE DDA PRIORITIES BELOW? WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE MOST VALUED?

Clean/Safe/Beautification was considered by the public the most important task that the DDA should be focusing on. Apart from this matter, the Safety Ambassadors Program was stated as a very helpful service for visitors and businesses alike. Other mentioned matters of focus would be Parking (would be helpful to have an application that would indicate where the available parking spots are located), advocate for Historic Preservation, Holiday decorations and lighting.

4. WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT DOWNTOWN ?

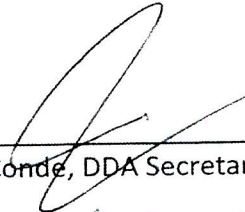
The most mentioned points were the community and small-town feeling that one can experience when coming to downtown Delray Beach.

5. WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THE DDA ?

The public mentioned the DDA has a great Ambassador for Delray (mainly through promoting the Downtown area and by the creation and execution of events that attract visitors into town), a great channel of communication in what concerns matters about the downtown area (either is an event that is happening, or a new construction development site) and a great support for the businesses (either through promoting them or being a liaison between the multiple City organizations).

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,
Liliana Fino



John Conde, DDA Secretary

6.27.22

DATE

