

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MARCH 21, 2023
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Williamston City Hall Council Chambers by Chairman Will Long and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Will Long, Vice Chair Emily Sutton-Smith, Authority Members Jessica Modert, Brooke Donnelly-Grzelak, Tammy Gilroy, Narda Murphy, and Wendy Carrol-Parry. Absent: Don Bixler.

Also Present: City Manager/DDA Director John Hanifan, City Clerk Holly Thompson, and citizens Earl Wolf, Jordan Davis, and Terry Hansen.

Motion by **Gilroy**, second by **Donnelly-Grzelak**, to excuse Bixler. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Gilroy**, second by **Sutton-Smith**, to approve the DDA agenda as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Public Response:

Chairman Long called for public comments at this time and there were none.

6. DDA Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023:

Motion by **Sutton-Smith**, second by **Gilroy**, to approve the DDA regular meeting minutes of February 21, 2023 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Accounts Payable:

None.

8. Downtown Development Director Report:

No report.

9. Treasurer- Budget Printout:

A budget printout was submitted for DDA review.

10. Action Items

10a. Selection of Kayak Launch Park Name:

Motion by **Murphy**, second by **Gilroy**, to recommend to City Council the name of "Red Cedar Bend Landing" for the new kayak launch. Yes: Donnelly-Grzelak, Long, Sutton-Smith, Gilroy, Modert, Carol-Parry, Murphy. No: None. **Motion passed.**

11. Discussion Items

11a. Pursuing Avenues of Transportation Options to Improve Regional Accessibility to Downtown Williamston:

Member Sutton-Smith stated she would like to do more to encourage public transportation options in Williamston. She has been in communication with CATA regarding this issue and they recommended the City adopt a resolution to pursue the option of creating better public transportation in Williamston. A few years ago the services with CATA were cut back and the need to have public transportation

available in the evenings and weekends has become important.

11b. 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget:

Manager Hanifan went over the draft budget with the DDA and asked for input.

14. Public Response:

Jordan Davis commented he does not want to see the trees in front of his house come down and expressed his dismay at the trees that have already been removed in preparation for the construction project.

Earl Wolf commented there will be eleven concerts in the bandshell this year for the Williamston Summer Concert Series. They are currently soliciting sponsors to cover the costs. He also asked if there has been any discussion of putting car charging stations in Williamston.

15. DDA Member Comments:

None.

16. Adjournment:

Chairman Long adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

***Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Date Approved: _____