



Where Community Connects

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY OF THE
CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE**

BOARD MEMBERS

Kenya Cook, Chair

Warren Washington, Vice-Chair

Vacant, Treasurer

Vacant, Secretary

Robert Anderson, Board Member

Jerry Mays, Board Member

Darryl Stamper, Board Member

Councilmember Elton Alexander

ADMINISTRATION

Frederick Gardiner, City Manager

Gerald Sanders

Economic Development Director

Lisa Fareed

Downtown Main Street Manager

Cassandra Lester, Recorder

Blake Sharpton, Attorney

**Downtown Development
Authority
Meeting Agenda
January 21, 2025 6:00 PM**



STOCKBRIDGE DOWNTOWN CONNECTION CENTER

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AGENDA DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 6:00 PM

I. Call to Order

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve December 10th Minutes

II. Officers Reports

4. Chairman Comments - Cook
5. Vice Chair Comments - Washington
6. Treasurer's Report - Vacant
7. Secretary's Update - Vacant

III. Old Business

8. 2025 Joint Sponsorship Amphitheater Table Promotions
9. Review the statuses of Façade Grant Applications

IV. New Business

10. Parking Lot Renovation Payment

V. City Staff Report

11. City Council Liaison - Councilmember Alexander
12. Economic Development Department Liaison - Gerald Sanders
13. Main Street Advisory Board Liaison - Lisa Fareed

VI. Executive Session (if needed)

VII. Adjourn

Board Members	City Staff
Robert Anderson, Chair - Present	Cassandra Lester, Deputy City Clerk - Present
Warren Washington, Vice Chair - Absent	Gerald Sanders, Economic Development Director - Present
Vacant, Treasurer	Lisa Fareed, Main Street Manager – Absent
Kenya Cook, Secretary - Present	Frederick Gardiner, City Manager – Absent
Darrell Stampler, Board Member - Present	
Jerry Mays, Board Member - Absent	Guest Speaker
Elton Alexander, City Council Liaison - Present	

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Chair Anderson proceeded with a roll call. Board Members Jerry Mays and Warren Washington were absent.

Chair Anderson called for a Motion to approve the October 15th, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion to approve made by Secretary Cook; seconded by Board Member Stampler. The Motion passed unanimously.

Officer Reports

Chair's Comments-Anderson

Recited the mission statement.

Vice-Chair Comments-Washington

No Updates

Treasurer Update - Financial Report

No expenditures reported and no balance provided. No vote was taken to approve the financial report.

Secretary Update-Cook

No Updates

Old Business

Update on the DDA/EDD/CDA Joint Sponsorship Amphitheater Table

No Updates

Update on 122 MLK Sr Heritage Trail Façade Grant

The business owner is in the process of securing a 3rd quote.

New Business

Review of Bylaws, Duties, Training and Elections of DDA Officers for FY2025

Chair Anderson provided an update to the Board on mandated training requirements. The following Board Members were elected to serve in 2025 unanimously:

Chair - Kenya Cook

Vice Chair - Warren Washington

Treasurer - Vacant (Chair Cook will act as Interim)

Secretary - Vacant

Main Street Liaison - Vacant

Parking Lot Invoice

There was a discussion about responsibility for paying the parking lot renovation invoice. It was decided that this issue would be addressed at the DDA's next meeting, when the city manager is available.

Special Called Meeting

Economic Development Director Gerald Sanders requested a special-called meeting on behalf of City Manager Frederick Gardiner to discuss a property transfer with the Downtown Development Authority.

120 MLK Sr Heritage Trail Façade Grant Application

Economic Development Director Gerald Sanders submitted a façade grant application to the DDA for consideration. Chair Anderson noted that the application was submitted on an outdated form and did not comply with the current façade grant guidelines. It was recommended that the applicant complete the correct application and resubmit the request. Chair Anderson also emphasized that all façade grant applications should be directed to the DDA Board. In response, Gerald Sanders stated that the Economic Development Department would enhance the DDA Board's effectiveness, as they are in-house and in close proximity, allowing them to act as liaisons between business owners and the DDA Board. Chair Anderson stated that the correct information needs to be supplied to the business owners from the start to maintain the integrity of the program.

City Council Update

Councilmember Elton Alexander stated that the Holiday Fest was a great success. It served a dual purpose: the citizens enjoyed the entertainment and had the opportunity to see and utilize the renovations made in the downtown area; Councilmember Alexander welcomed Gerald Sanders, noting that he is a valuable resource; He highlighted the SPLOST allocation of \$10 million dedicated to the construction of a multigenerational recreation center. Additionally, the pedestrian bridge is scheduled to receive over \$1 million dollars collectively from Congressman Scott and through remaining SPLOST funds; States the Railroad area will be cleaned up, allowing parking to be opened to the public; Adds the Tax Allocation District is currently awaiting approval from the school board and the county; Reminded the Board that Henry County has a first-time homebuyers program available for Stockbridge, which is worth exploring and more information can be found on the Henry County website; Encouraged the Board, stating that the decisions made now may not yield immediate results, but they are laying the groundwork for positive outcomes in the future.

City Staff Reports

Economic Development

During the meeting the Economic Development Director Gerald Sanders expressed his excitement about joining the team and has good plans for the City of Stockbridge. He emphasized that he has a wealth of experience and sees this as an opportunity to elevate Stockbridge to the level of other cities experiencing similar population growth.

Executive Session – Real Estate Matters

No Updates

Chair Anderson called for a motion to adjourn; Secretary Cook motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.; seconded by Board Member Stamper. The Motion passed unanimously. The minutes were written by Deputy City Clerk Cassandra Lester.

Executive Session Criteria	GA Code
Discuss or vote to authorize the settlement of a matter covered by the attorney-client privilege. Identify the case or claim discussed but not the substance of the attorney-client discussion.	50-14-2(1) and 50-14-3(b)(1)(A)
Discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of or lease property.	50-14-3(b)(1)(B)
Discuss or vote to authorize the ordering of an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate.	50-14-3(b)(1)(C)
Discuss or vote to enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of, or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote.	50-14-3(b)(1)(D)
Discuss or vote to enter into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease real estate.	50-14-3(b)(1)(E)
Discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee.	50-14-3(b)(2)
Meeting to interview one or more applicants for the position of the executive head of an agency.	50-14-3(b)(2)
A meeting otherwise required to be open was closed to the public in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or any officer or employee or in which the agency or any officer or employee may be directly involved and the matter discussed was [identify the matter but not the substance of the discussion].	50-14-2(1)
Staff meeting held for investigative purposes under duties or responsibilities imposed by law.	50-14-3(a) (1)