



Brunswick Downtown Development Authority Called Meeting / Work Session Minutes

Friday, October 10, 2025

8:30am – UGA Marine Extension

Board Members & Staff Present: Whitney Herndon, Julie Martin, Susan Bates, Michael Torras, Travis Stegall, Lina Baren, Brittany Rozier & Mathew Hill.

Absent: Michael Kaufman & Shemeka Sorrells.

Advisory Board Present: Craig Watkins.

Guests / City Staff: City Manager McDuffie & Taylor Cooper – The Brunswick News.

I. Call to Order:

W. Herndon called the meeting to order.

II. Momentum Minute:

W. Herndon read a post from Jeff Siegler's blog: "Revitalize or Die."

III. Approval of Agenda:

Those present reviewed the agenda. S. Bates made a motion to approve the agenda, JM. Torras seconded. A vote was taken, all were in favor.

IV. Citizen Items: None.

V. Items of Business:

A. Consent: M. Torras made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda.

The items were:

1. Minutes
2. Monthly Activity Report
3. Treasurer's Report

J. Martin seconded, a vote was taken all were in favor.

VI. Work Session:

A. Safety (J. Martin): Bike racks – potential locations were listed, M. Hil will determine if there are any extras, M. Torras will investigate pricing.

Crosswalks – people are parking in crosswalks, BPD should ticket and PW should repaint.

Trucks – transfer trucks are ignoring the “no truck” signs. They need to be replaced.

B. Beautification (M. Torras): Blight Tax – Notices have been sent out, this program should help neighborhoods look better. Signage – Designs for an I heart Brunswick sign were reviewed. Hugh Nettles Park was one potential spot for the sign, especially after the roundabout is completed. Howard Coffin Park Fence – samples of “plug in cups” have been ordered.

C. Public Events (S. Bates): Tent – The DDA tent was reviewed. The supplier has given a price of \$695, about half off, for the tent. Board members will be scheduled for 1 hour shifts during DDA sponsored events. Porchfest – There will be no golf carts at Porchfest, the insurance will be less than expected. First Friday – signage stating “no golf carts” should be obtained for the entrances to the event. Trash can lids should be opened – people will use an open trash can, but won’t open a closed one. R. McDuffie said that overtime is used for Public Works to be present at First Friday. M. Hill said that Old City Hall had a PW appreciation lunch, the board will be invited to the next one. Food Trucks – having centralized food truck areas was discussed. Restaurants are seeing a decrease in sales due to food trucks. The registration fee should be increased for 2026 and food trucks should be encouraged to bring a table & chairs, along with trash cans.

D. Construction Projects (T. Stegall): The construction toolkit was reviewed. 1700 Newcastle – the project status was discussed, the owners have secured the building, but work has stopped.

VII. Adjourn: M. Torras made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Martin seconded. W. Herndon adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:
Mathew Hill, Executive Director