

MARSHALL DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MARSHALL, TEXAS

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 20 – 2:00 pm
Synergy Park – Third Floor – The Board Room
100 North Bolivar Street
Marshall, Texas 75670

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. J. Blair Blackburn, President of the MDDC, called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Glenn Bickerdike, Secretary-Treasurer of the MDDC, presented a brief financial report. The MDDC currently has \$25,000.00 in a seven (7) month CD. Glenn Bickerdike moved to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Dr. Blackburn. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Dinora Harris provided an update on the Cultural Arts District Application. The application will be held until 2024 to better prepare.

LeAnne White shared that City Manager Terrell Smith is planning additional development grants for downtown Marshall, with more information to be released in the coming months. The City of Marshall is exploring funding opportunities for a pedestrian bridge crossing Washington Street.

The Board discussed the Directional Sign Campaign. Glenn Bickerdike presented proposed locations for the directional signage downtown. The Board discussed pricing estimates and necessary permits. Glenn Bickerdike will further investigate the steps needed to implement.

The Board discussed downtown art murals. Locations are being investigated by the Board, and members discussed their knowledge of planned murals in downtown by private citizens.

Pedestrian routes in downtown were discussed by the Board, with each member stating the current blighted and unsafe condition of many of the City sidewalks throughout downtown. LeAnne White will bring concerns of the Board to City Manager Terrell Smith.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the MDDC budget for 2023-2024. The MDDC will have \$13,000.00 in expenses and \$1,000.00 in revenue. Budgeted expenses include \$5,000.00 for the Directional Sign Campaign, \$5,000.00 for downtown art murals, \$2,000.00 for sponsorship of new downtown initiatives, and \$1,000.00 for financial audit. Budgeted revenue includes \$1,000.00 from interest earned. Glenn Bickerdike moved to accept the budget. Dinora Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the proposed budget was accepted.

The Board discussed a consideration for stoplights and crosswalk equipment. LeAnne White is working to provide more information from the City of Marshall.

The Board discussed three businesses that recently left downtown Marshall, two of which moved to downtown Jefferson. The reasons given were the cost of rent. LeAnne White discussed 903 Spark, an initiative of the City of Marshall to attract and retain business in Marshall.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Blackburn adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.