



Hiawassee Downtown Development Authority Meeting Summary

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2026
Time: 8:30 AM
Location: City Hall, Upstairs Training Room, 50 River St, Hiawassee
Board Present: Bradley Barrett, Hali Caldwell, Alex King, Julie Payne, Brett Bradshaw
Staff Present: Lily Ponitz
Guests Present: Leslie Howard, Caitlin Ayers

- I. Call to order**
Bradley called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM
- II. Swear in newly appointed DDA board members – Julie Payne, Brett Bradshaw**
- III. Adopt agenda as set**
Motion: Alex | Second: Julie | Approved
- IV. Approval of September 15, 2026 meeting minutes**
Motion: Hali | Second: Brett | Approved
- V. Financial Update**
Approve vote to file financials for audit
Motion: Alex | Second: Julie | Approved
- VI. Directors Update**
- VII. Night Market Update**
- VIII. Paris Business Center Update**
- IX. New Business**
 - a. Nominations and elections of Secretary and Treasurer.
 - b. Bios and headshots for website, Facebook.
- X. Old Business**
 - a. Approve ATC Grant Agreement for Wild East Action Fund grant received by Hiawassee DDA, Inc. (\$15,000).
Motion: Hali | Second: Julie | Approved
 - b. Approve creation of a Marketing Assistance Grant (\$5,000 in calendar year 2027).
Motion: Alex | Second: Hali | Approved
 - c. Discuss UGA Connected Resilient Communities and plan for Discovery Day.
 - d. Discuss plans for Light Up Hiawassee and other holiday events. Approve budget for Light Up Hiawassee (\$1,960), including invoice for movie licensing (\$735).
Motion: Alex | Second: Hali | Approved

XI. Other Business
No other business

XII. Public Comment

XIII. Executive Session
No executive session

XIV. Adjourn by general consent at 9:53 AM