



Hiawassee Downtown Development Authority Meeting Summary

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026
Time: 8:30 AM
Location: 50 River Street, Upstairs Training Room
Board Present: Bradley Barrett, Alex King, Hannah Chriswell
Staff Present: Lily Ponitz
Guests Present: Leslie Howard, Caitlin Ayers, William Ayers

I. Call to order

Bradley called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM

II. Adopt agenda as set or amended

Motion: Alex | Second: Hannah | Approved

III. Approval of June 16, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion: Alex | Second: Hannah | Approved

IV. Financial Update

V. Directors Update

- a. Request to paint PBC mural wall
- b. Board roster and training
- c. Staff changes

VI. Night Market Update

VII. Paris Business Center Update

VIII. New Business

- a. Georgia Council for the Arts Vibrant Communities Grant for Fireflies Project (\$5,000)
Approve applying for the Vibrant Communities Grant for Fireflies Project (\$5,000).
Motion: Bradley | Second: Hannah | Approved
- b. Holiday Events – Fairgrounds, Light Up Hiawassee, Small Business Saturday Shop & Sip
- c. Hiawassee Half Marathon & 5K – 2027 budget and reserving funds (\$8,000)
Approve reserving funds (\$8,000) for 2027 Hiawassee Half Marathon & 5K.
Motion: Bradley | Second: Alex | Approved
- d. Hikeawassee – 2027 budget and reserving funds (\$6,000)
Approve reserving funds (\$6,000) for 2027 Hikeawassee.
Motion: Alex | Second: Hannah | Approved

IX. Old Business

- a. Fundraiser – 2026 recap and discussion of 2027 event and reserving funds (\$35,000)
Approve reserving funds (\$35,000) for 2027 fundraiser.
Motion: Bradley | Second: Alex | Approved

- b. DDA Vice Chair vote: Alex King
Appoint Alex King as DDA Vice Chair.
Motion: Bradley | Second: Hannah | Approved

- c. DDA board member recruitment

X. Other Business

XI. Public Comment

XII. Executive Session

XIII. Adjourn by general consent at 9:47 AM