



an updated Thomaston Courtyard conceptual developed by Miss Anna Jordan. First, Mr. Smith read a letter from adjacent property owner, Mr. Terry Davidson and others, voicing their opposition of the proposed changes. Ms. Smith also informed the board, that he had spoken with property owners located on the Southside of the Square (Gordon St), that back up to the alley and shared updated conceptals to primarily positive feedback. Concerns addressed in the updated proposal were 4 additional parking spots, dumpster/compactor usage & location, delivery zones (English's & WCGB), and the burial of grease traps for adjacent restaurants. Board members were informed that the updated concept would be used for the Rural Downtown Redevelopment Grant Opportunity that is due on June 3rd. Board members voiced their support for the proposal, but recommended the brick pavers continue the entire length of the alley, rather than half-way as proposed.

The next agenda item was discussion of the upcoming downtown events including the HGTV Live Airing in Downtown Thomaston on Sunday May 22nd, Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) on June 5th & 6th, and Freedom Fest on July 4th. Mr. Smith informed board members that the city would be accepting Freedom Fest Sponsorships until June 6th.

Board Member Catherine Baity motioned to enter an Executive Session at 2:55pm to discuss potential litigation, which was seconded by Mrs. Coggins, and carried unanimously. Mrs. Baity motioned to exit the Executive Session at 3:45pm, which was seconded by Mrs. Caudill and carried unanimously.

In other business, Mr. Smith had several things to share with the board. First, board members were shared the contents of a letter from Upson Historical Society Communications & Marketing Manager, Kaila Jones. The letter requested input from the DDA regarding a potential partnership with UHS and Downtown Business owners to develop a building plaque (Building Name, Year Built, Business History) in preparation for the 2025 Bicentennial. Board members expressed interest in a potential collaboration and instructed Mr. Smith to gather more information (#of buildings/costs per plaque). Secondly, board members were read a proposed sidewalk ordinance that looks to address items being placed on the sidewalk. Board members asked that the ordinance be emailed to them for further review and response. Finally, Board members were reminded to complete the Connected Resilient Communities (CRC) survey to be utilized in resiliency building projects in partnership with the UGA Archway Partnership.

Mr. Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was made by Mrs. Coggins and seconded by Mr. Day All commission members stood to show approval, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Taylor J. Smith

Economic Development Coordinator