

Thursday, December 11th, 2025 8:30 am

Cornelia City Hall: Downstairs Conference Room

Motion to call meeting to order at 8:54 am by Heath Barret, seconded by Lindsay Dilbeck, all in favor.

Heath Barret brought up an amendment to the agenda to discuss the DDA Checking Account under New Business.

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Operating-

\$3,580.88

Façade-

\$9,430.70

Savings-

\$25.08

# 2. New Business

### a. DDA checking account

Heath Barret brought up that the board has had its account at Georgia United Credit Union all these years since the former treasurer was the president of the Cornelia branch. With all the logistics and payments the DDA will have to make to the city with the amphitheater building, Heath made a motion that the board move the account to United Community Bank to be at the same bank as the one the City of Cornelia banks with. Lindsay Dilbeck seconded this motion, all in favor

#### b. Christmas in Cornelia- Recap

Despite all the other events in the area last Saturday during Christmas in Cornelia the attendance was good, better than most expected! Noah claimed the Santa's were great as always, the Grinch gave away all 175 candy canes he brought, and the new Ice Queen was huge success. The DDA members collectively agreed to look into combining the downtown tree lighting, Christmas in Cornelia, and Shop Small Saturday into one large event for 2026.

Noah proposed a new plan for Santa at the next event. Still have the two Santa's, but at one location,. Split them up into two shifts over the entire five-hour event. Then families can see Santa at any point during the event. Many of the families were mad or annoyed that they had to wait until 6pm to see Santa. Lindsay Dilbeck suggested we see if one of the usual two Santas the city hires would be willing to do some private paid Santa sessions. This could become a Christmas fundraiser if it's successful. The board will look into the details of this idea closer to Christmas next year.

### c. Officer Elections - 2026

Heath Barret the current Chair of the DDA read off the positions and their responsibilities.

Lindsay Dilbeck nominated Heath Barret for Chair, seconded by Frank Wolf, all in favor. Heath Barret accepted the position.

Heath Barret nominated Frank Wolf for Vice Chair, seconded by Lindsay Dilbeck, all in favor. Frank Wolf accepted the position.

Frank Wolf nominated Jace Reeder for Secretary, seconded by Heath Barret, all in favor. Jace was appointed as the 2026 Secretary

Lindsay Dilbeck nominated Zach Stagg for Treasurer, seconded by Frank Wolf, all in favor. Zach was appointed as the 2026 Treasurer

## 3. Old Business

- a. Award ceremony
  Last meeting the board agreed to make Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> the date of the award ceremony. Noah read out the awards that we give and the requirements. The board and Noah will begin thinking of individuals that meet the requirements and deserve the awards.
- b. 2026 Planning Retreat (Continued)
  Jessie Owensby with Civic Enhancement Strategies took over and began reading off the goals the board made at the retreat in November. With this information Jessie broke the goals into tasks and allowed the board members to sign up for the ones they wanted to take charge on. After the meeting Noah and Jessie would get the board members registered on Click Up, the project management app the city uses. This will help the board members stay up to date on their timelines and progress.

Next Board Meeting- Thursday January 8th 8:30 am Cornelia City Hall:

**Downstairs Conference Room** 

Present- Heath Barret, Lindsay Dilbeck, Hayden Black, Frank Wolf, Zach Staggs,

Noah Hamil, Jessie Owensby

Absent-Jace Reeder

Guests- None