

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

April 29, 2010

Present – Chair Feigley, Vice-Chair Dierkes, Board members Armstrong, Heyn, Horsley, Kilpatrick, Lamb, Nichols, Rivera, Tyler

Excused – Board member Niebauer, Rusas

Absent – Board member Weinbaum

Also present – DDA Director Barnette, Village Manager Shufflebarger, and Architect Grissim

Armstrong moved, Nichols seconded, to add to the agenda under new business a report from Arthur about joining the Village and Township governments. Motion **Carried**.

Approval of Minutes:

Board member Nichols corrected use of the word “lose”, which is “loose” on page 2, line 2, of the minutes. Nichols moved, Kilpatrick seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2010 as corrected. Motion **Carried**.

Treasurer’s Report:

Board member Lamb moved, Nichols seconded, to accept the Treasurer’s Report a presented.

Ms. Barnette said we may add to the fund balance this year, because our expenses will not be as high as anticipated. Motion **Carried**.

Call to the Public:

Joe Strauss is here to “observe”, as he is an agenda item today.

John Grissim is here as well.

Unfinished Business:

1. Marketing.

Now passed 3000 fans on Facebook. Nothing today on the video promotion. It will include quality of life issues, the bike path, and be image oriented.

Nancy has been working on the Business Database report. There are about 461 records for the district. She is making sure we are up to date; getting contact names, emails, web addresses, etc.

2. TRW update. Finalized the purchase of the Whitehead property; the utilities are shut off.

Creating bid specs to have the building demolished. We are donating the newer heating/cooling system and the water heater to the Historical Society. All to be completed by the end of June.

The purchase agreement with TRW includes having an approved remedial action plan and the DEQ, now the MDNRE, refused the plan. We are waiting to see how TRW gets through the process.

Armstrong moved, Dierkes seconded, to make every effort possible including spending money to have a representative at the next meeting so we have a voice before the fact and not just a copy after the fact, whether it is Ann or Arthur or one of our paid consultants. Discussion: many of the people working on this are the same people, except the key person has changed. Mr.

Shufflebarger said the upcoming meeting will be technical, and we may not be able to contribute much. Our technical person is Tom Wackerman of TSI.

Chair Feigley reworded the motion: We should send a technical person, Tom Wackerman, to attend the meeting and to express our views on this and to show the reasoning behind why this procedure that TRW is advocating makes the most sense. Roll call: Aye, Chair Feigley, Vice-Chair Dierkes, Board members Armstrong, Heyn, Kilpatrick, Rivera, Tyler. Nay Board member Lamb, Nichols. Motion **Carried**.

Nichols moved, Tyler seconded, to table the demolition of the house until after our next DDA meeting. Motion **Carried**.

Gas Station. Nothing new.

New Business:

1. Motley Lights.

The bids are in. Grissim Metz is recommending the Corby Energy Services, Inc., bid of \$35,275. They indicated if they could remove the pendant light at the same time they could do that for less than the \$4,175. Sue Grissim feels they would do it for \$1,000 less than the \$4,175. The total of the whole project is \$52,000. Mr. Strauss said we estimate expenses of \$3,000, with an estimated \$1,500 coming in from the upcoming garage sale. There is a \$5,000 contingency built into the \$52,000. The DDA is into it by \$15,000; we budgeted \$25,000, so there shouldn't be any problem.

Tyler moved, Nichols seconded, to accept the Corby Energy Services bid of \$39,450, not to exceed \$40,000, for the Motley Light Project. Motion **Carried**.

The project completion date is June 30, and both bidders said they could meet that.

2. Proposal for Bike Trail Extension.

We have been trying to find a way to get the bike path safely downtown. This plan would widen the existing sidewalk to 8 feet on the south side of Commerce Street and utilize it as a two-way path to the west parking lot.

The total project cost is between \$50,000 and \$60,000. The project is "for the betterment of the DDA district". It will get bikers from Kensington to downtown. It should be included in the way finding signage. The village has committed \$7,000, and we hope for \$10,000 from the bike trail committee. (Dave: in perpetuity)

A Boy Scout wants to build a shelter on the trail for his Eagle Scout project. He is trying to raise funds.

Tyler moved, Lamb seconded, to take \$10,000 from the trail committee in the village budget to start the engineering and survey work for the Milford Trail extension. Motion **Carried**.

3. Capital Outlay Discussion.

Southside improvements. The buildings and streetscape on the west side of the street need attention. Ms. Barnette suggests we do a different approach than downtown, such as tree beds, or borders, as well as the hanging plants we put in each year. Ask Mr. Grissim to do some preliminary conceptual design ideas to present to the property owners.

4. Mill Pond. We are replacing ten trees along the Mill Pond; the DPS is installing them. Mr. Grissim and Mr. Weinbaum have bought trees for Commerce Road; the DPS is also installing those.

5. Bike Racks. We were approached by Huron Valley Running Club. They want to do a fund raiser for bike racks downtown from Starbucks to The Bar. They have selected sites for 23 racks to hold 46 bikes. Joe Dolan will raise the money. Ms. Barnette will check out the racks. We will purchase them and they will reimburse us for them.

Ms. Tyler said Sweet and Savory Bakery was approached to host the bikers on Saturday mornings.

6. Sound System. The speakers will move into the trees by the new poles. They will not be on the new pole. Will put up a pole for the speakers. Discussed music on Sunday. Most businesses downtown are closed. Nichols moved, Rivera seconded, to have no music on Sunday on a trial basis. Motion **Carried**. Mr. Armstrong abstained.

7. Village/Township change in government.

Mr. Shufflebarger gave an update of the discussion between the village and the township. SEMCOG has a great deal of information on the subject.

Mr. Green will contact Oakland County to see how much the township collects in road taxes.

Mr. Shufflebarger offered what the state law allows, which is very specific. There are a lot of questions to be answered. Also looking at ways we could combine services, staying separate entities.

Director's Report:

Upcoming Events:

Ladies Night Out is tonight.

Board member Comments:

Ms. Lamb said the grass is dead under the new Village sign. Who is to care for it? She also said the flowers have been ordered.

Ms. Tyler said to shop locally and to support one another.

Mr. Heyn is excited about Motley lights. Also excited about the bike trail extension to downtown. Nice to have Denise back.

Mr. Shufflebarger said there will be a police millage on the ballot.

Mr. Armstrong said there is a grant for Milford Village, Milford Township and Highland Township to green up our lights.

Phyllis went to the fire hall open house; quite a place.

Phyllis said thank you for Tom's lights!

Mr. Feigley raved that PAN, Poetry Art Night, at the library every year is so special.

Adjourn:

Armstrong moved, Lamb seconded, to adjourn at 9:40 a.m. Motion **Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Motley, Recording Secretary