

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

August 20, 2009

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

Excused – Board member Niebauer, Weinbaum

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

Approval of Minutes:

Nichols moved, Kilpatrick seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2009 as presented. Motion **Carried**.

Treasurer's Report:

Dierkes moved, Feigley seconded, to accept the oral Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion **Carried**.

Call to the Public:

No one today.

Unfinished Business:

1. Wayfinding.

Village Entrance Signs. Have estimates of \$600 for plantings; to be planted in September or October. Discussed lighting the entrance sign. Mr. Nader has solar lights at his home; cost about \$10. Mr. Grissim will look at them.

2. Marketing.

Franco continues to update the Twitter and Facebook page regularly. The businesses aware of it are taking advantage of it. The Franco contract expires in September.

CRIT. Criterium. Part of our \$5,000 donation was used for cooperative advertising. The MBA has been supportive of the Saturday event.

Had a lengthy discussion about promoting the DDA in the community; the things the DDA does from major road construction and maintenance to the annual support of concerts in the park.

Discussed updating the database and keeping it current. Phyllis will work on this continually. (If you know of a change in a business, let me know.)

3. Liberty Street Underpass Project.

The grant application has gone out. Should hear in about three weeks if we got the grant.

Contracted with DLZ, the engineering firm, to move forward with CSX discussions. They have agreed to the construction method, and give us 24 hours to build it. We have not hired them, but for a minimal cost DLZ will see us through to the next phase of engineering; then engineering will go out to bid.

4. Downtown Sound System. We are out of the DMX contract, and ready for XM radio. A cooling system fan is needed in the box.

5. Fall Festival. Meeting with Oakland County for Oaktobor 23 & 24 plans. They will provide volunteers, Parks staff to bring things in and run them, which is probably \$10 to \$15,000 of in-kind. Discussed sponsors for the fire works. We can get someone local to do them for about \$2,500; the County will not pay that expense. The DDA has committed \$5,000 toward the event. Many local organizations will have the opportunity to participate in fund raising by sponsoring a festival event on their own.

6. Milford Trail, Kensington Wayfinding.

Kensington's directional signs on their trails will include Milford on three of those trails. They do not however do wayfinding signs. We could do one at GM & CVS because we own that property. We want a map of the entire bike path, and directions to downtown Milford. Milford Memories used the trail for their run; had 150 runners and they loved it.

At 9 a.m. on Labor Day, Lyle and Denise will be doing a "Dam walk" starting at the Y. And will then walk into town.

7. Gas Station Tolling Agreement.

This is between J & S and the DDA to put the litigation on hold without prejudice while the DEQ and J & S work out their differences. If we don't sign the agreement it goes to court in October. We want to keep involved to hold our position on the purchase agreement. This is minimal expense, less than \$10,000 for litigation for the next couple of years.

8. Motley Lights. GMA proposal. Estimate is now about \$36,000. Currently have about \$16,000. Committee is doing the beer tent at the Oaktober Festival. Also starting a corporate sponsor drive.

New Business: Nothing today.

Director's Report:

Talked to TRW about their arborvitae. They were not planted well. There is a one-year warranty on them.

The owner of the Burger Joint wants a DDA development liquor license which costs \$20,000. Board asked they write a formal request with supporting business data. They can also purchase any open license in Oakland County; this transferred escrow license is \$60,000.

Dave Borlace, owner of O'Callahans has bought all lease hold improvements, and is putting it all back together.

Kroger wants to expand into Fashion Bug and Radio Shack. With their movement the development will be full. Kroger wants to install a gas station on their out lot, as an ancillary use to the primary use. This is in a B-2 district. They are adding 25,000 sq. ft., for a total of about 70,000 sq. ft. Discussed presenting our objections to Planning Commission, including not to allow in a B-2, or to only consider on a very large parcel.

The old stone church, zoned office, wants a cultural center in that property. The Village is considering a change in the office zoning. They are not in our DDA district.

Rivera moved, Lamb supported, to reappoint the DDA Executive Committee and current DDA officers to their positions for the next year. Motion **Carried**.

Upcoming Events:

Labor Day 30K, Saturday before Labor Day, needs help.

The Dam Walk is Labor Day at 9 a.m.

September 15 is the village election. The Candidates Forum will be televised on channel 22. On the ballot are ½ mills for street repair.

September 19 is the home Tour.

Board member Comments:

Mr. Shufflebarger said CSX will be closing Huron Street to redo that crossing in mid-September.

Parking Authority will be exchanging the current dumpsters for compact dumpsters.

Ms. Lamb said the trees on Main Street need to be pruned, which is why beds under large trees don't do well.

Mr. Heyn said the new welcome sign looks great. Also the trail is fantastic.

Adjourn:

Lamb moved, Rivera seconded, to adjourn at 9:25 a.m. Motion **Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Motley, Recording Secretary