

## DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

September 17, 2009

Present – Chair Feigley, Board members Armstrong, Heyn, Lamb, Nichols, Niebauer, Tyler, Weinbaum

Excused – Vice-Chair Dierkes, Board member Horsley, Kilpatrick, Rivera,

Also present – DDA Director Barnette

### Approval of Minutes:

Nichols moved, Tyler seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2009 as presented. Motion **Carried**.

### Treasurer's Report:

Armstrong moved, Lamb seconded, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion **Carried**.

### Call to the Public:

Garrett Steele, a consultant, offered to do a marketing study for the DDA at no cost to us.

Gary Goodnough, Planning Commission.

Wants input on the zoning request for Kroger at Prospect Hill.

The stone church wants a cultural arts center in that facility. It is zoned office now. Mr. Goodnough would prefer to see it rezoned to central business, from Hickory to Union. Planning Commission can only make the recommendation to Council. Or ask for a special use permit for the property.

### Unfinished Business:

#### 1. Wayfinding.

Oakland County does not generally support a wayfinding sign taking someone from one community to another. Ms. Barnette would like to be involved in any discussion with Lyon Twp., along with Don Green.

#### 2. Marketing.

Ms. Barnette would like us to approve Franco contract for the next year. Tyler moved, Nichols seconded, to approve the Franco Public Relations Group contract at \$3,000 monthly retainer for another year. Motion **Carried**. Franco will continue to administer the Facebook and Twitter pages for us.

#### 3. Liberty Street Underpass Project.

Our MDOT transportation enhancement grant application was denied for several reasons:

That section of the bike path is not part of the larger regional system.

That underpass is more vehicular rather than bicycle.

MDOT spread their money around the state and Milford village and township have gotten a lot of money for the bike path.

Usually they are looking at two or three applications; this time there were ten which made the competition pretty tough.

The Parking authority approved almost \$30,000 for initial engineering and CSX discussions.

DDA spent \$1,500 on the grant writing. We approved about \$3,000 for DLZ engineering firm for feasibility and safety at the railroad crossing.

Mr. Niebauer talked about the amount of times that crossing is used by pedestrians, even as it is.

Ms. Barnette wants time to review the denial and look at the entire project again.

#### 4. Downtown Sound System. We paid to get out of the DMX contract, and we are ready for XM radio. Our equipment is not yet installed; we are using a loaner for the car show.

New Business:

1. Hubbell Pond Park: Skateboard Proposal

They would like to move from Hubbell Pond Park to the property at Hubbell Pond Park South by the Pet Supply Park by CVS Drug Store. This is a permanent fixture. They want more exposure which wasn't available at Hubbell Pond North.

Board is not concerned as long as the viewshed is preserved and the village maintains the r.o.w. to the river. Mr. Goodnough said a site plan is required and Planning Commission is very protective of that piece of property.

2. Downtown Flowers/Trees

DDA hired Barb Lamb to monitor the tree beds downtown. Some of the trees need to be pruned. The beds with large trees and large roots have poor flowers because they do not get the sunshine. She is making recommendations as to what branches need to be pruned from each tree. The DPS will contribute to the expense of pruning.

Garden Club still maintains the flower beds.

Director's Report:

Kroger is going to Planning Commission for an expansion to their development. They want a fuel station on the outskirts of their site. They are asking for an interpretation of an accessory use to their primary business.

Ms. Barnette suggests Planning Commission consider an accessory use to a grocery store in the B2 district for shopping centers of a certain size so it would allow only in a Prospect Hill or Farmer Jack area. Kroger is asking for 5 bays, but may accept only 4.

CRIT. Some merchant's response to the Criterium was not positive. The CRIT will consider a move to Sunday next year. Will resolve the parking problems at Presbyterian Church and Klancy's.

Fall Festival. The County was to fund and administer this festival. The Chamber of Commerce cut their support when the County cut theirs. If it is proposed again we would approach it in a different fashion.

Election Results. Terry Rusas was elected President of the Council. Jerry Aubrey and Jennifer Frankford were elected to Council seats. Mike Glagola was re-elected to his seat.

Ms. Barnette was unanimously voted in as President of the Michigan Downtown Association.

Upcoming Events:

September 19 is the Home Tour.

Ladies Night Out is October 1.

The Community Picnic is October 3. Will have a drive-in movie at Farmer Jacks.

Horsing Around is September 16.

Board member Comments:

Ms. Tyler said the Milford Trail raised more money than needed so they put in picnic tables. Need a toilet; will consider porta johns, at \$80 month. Maintenance also has to be considered.

Ms. Lamb talked about the crosswalk for the Milford Trail.

Mr. Armstrong asked if there is anything about the roundabouts.

Mr. Nichols said Milford Memories was very successful even the Saturday's rain.

Executive Session:

Armstrong moved, Lamb seconded, to go to Executive Session to discuss real estate purchase. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Chair Feigley, Board Members Armstrong, Heyn, Lamb, Nichols, Niebauer, Tyler, Weinbaum. Motion **Carried**.

Armstrong moved, Weinbaum seconded, to close the Executive Session and return to the regular DDA meeting. Motion **Carried**.

Armstrong moved, Weinbaum Seconded, that Ms. Barnette be authorized to go ahead with the terms of the agreement discussed in the Executive Session. Motion **Carried**.

Adjourn:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Motley, Recording Secretary