

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

October 15, 2009

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

Excused – Board member Nichols

Absent – Board member Armstrong

Also present – DDA Director Barnette, Village Manager Shufflebarger

Approval of Minutes:

Tyler moved, Lamb seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2009 as presented. Motion **Carried**.

Treasurer's Report:

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

Call to the Public:

John Grissim talked about the problems with the arborvitae and pear trees which were planted on the TRW property on Commerce Rd. Ms. Barnette is regularly contacting TRW to remedy the situation.

Unfinished Business:

1. Marketing.

Franco is working hard to promote businesses in the DDA district.

Discussed the parameters we should be using for inclusion in these ads.

The DDA is helping promote Christmas Open House and any other events downtown. The DDA is helping promote Christmas Open House and any other events downtown.

Franco is also keeping Facebook and Twitter updated.

Business Database report. Phyllis' job is to ascertain that the correct business is attached to the sidwell numbers. (Check out the MeetMeInMilford website; it is impressive!)

2. Liberty Street Underpass Project. Discussed grants which are appropriate and available.

Mr. Niebauer discussed a railroad crossing in East Lansing which is geared for use as a pedestrian at grade crossing. Mr. Shufflebarger reminded the board that "shovel-ready" is imperative if we get stimulus money. Ms. Barnette will check if there are other grants.

3. Downtown Sound System. The system is working. Still on the borrowed amp. Being well received downtown.

4. Milford Trail. There is now a porta john at the site by CVS. The rental is paid from the balance of the fund. Would be nice to have some sort of privacy screen around it.

New Business:

1. Liquor Licenses. Americus Coney Island and the Burger Joint are both asking for a liquor license. Existing licenses holders would like Milford to put a moratorium on new licenses. Discussed the number of licenses in other communities.

Weinbaum moved, Dierkes supported, going to council asking for a 90 day moratorium on issuance of any new liquor licenses, subject to review by a committee of DDA and village council members. Motion **Carried**.

2. Kroger proposal. Kroger is asking for a conditional rezoning to B3, which gives the community the ability to attach conditions to the rezoning. This would allow a fuel station but none of the other possible uses in a B3 zone. Public hearing will be in November. John Grissim and Ann met with Mark to discuss architecture, landscaping, etc. DDA would support the application.

3. Ms. Tyler asked if we want to consider having retail consultants come in again. Ms. Barnette will look into this.

Director's Report:

A new bakery will open by Allstar Corner, called Sweet and Savory. Will be doing different from Milford Baking Co. She will also do light lunches.

Mr. Feigley said the DEQ and the DNR are merging.

He also asked if we contribute any funds to the current farmers market. We did not.

St. George's Café is being sold; will operate the same kind of business.

Someone with an existing business in Birmingham looked at O'Callahans.

Mr. Horsley asked if we can have the tree lighting year round.

Upcoming Events:

Board member Comments:

Executive Session:

Lamb moved, Tyler seconded, to go to Executive Session at 9:05 a.m. to discuss real estate purchase.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Chair Feigley, Board Members Heyn, Horsley, Lamb, Nichols, Niebauer, Rivera, Tyler. Motion **Carried**. Mr. Weinbaum asked to be excused from Executive Session.

Excused: Board member Kilpatrick, Nichols, and Rusas.

Absent: Board member Armstrong

Lamb moved, Feigley seconded, to close the Executive Session at 9:28 a.m. and return to the regular DDA meeting. Motion **Carried**.

Adjourn:

Rivera moved, Horsley seconded, to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. Motion **Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Motley, Recording Secretary