

**MINUTES**  
**ST. IGNACE DDA MEETING**  
**November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ City Hall**  
**ONLINE MEETING**

**Members Present:** Chairman Jim North, Pat Ramsey, Barb Yshinski, Vice Chair Mayor Connie Litzner, Cheryl Schlehuber, Heather Aukeman, Linda Bell, Phil Ruegg, Barb Brown

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** DDA Director Scott Marshall, City Assessor Kyle Mulka

**Others Present:** Eric Doerr from the St. Ignace News

Chairman Jim North called the meeting to order at 8: 13 a.m.

- I. **MINUTES:** Motion by Ruegg, support by Brown to accept the minutes of October 9th , 2020. Motion Carried.
- II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Marshall, Schlehuber
- III. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Marshall reviewed the bills for October 2020 and then reviewed the DDA Revenue and Expenses to date. Motion by Schlehuber, support by Brown to accept the Bills. Motions carried.

**IV BUSINESS:**

- 1. **Excuse absent members:** None
- 2. **Emma Cook Enbridge:** Marshall introduced Emma Cook a senior community engagement analyst for Enbridge. Emma Cook talked about grant opportunities that are available to the city. Cook said that Enbridge is interested in supporting community projects.
- 3. **Judy Gross History Update:** Judy will attend next DDA meeting that is in person.
- 4. **2021 Budgets:** Marshall reviewed the DDA and Museum 2021 budgets line item by line item. Litzner asked about 2% grants for the museum. Motion by Schlehuber and support by Ruegg to accept both budgets for 2021. Motion Passed.
- 5. **Little Bear Park Project:** The building construction is completed. The plumbing fixtures will be installed soon and then the buildings will be completed. The fence poles are up, then chain link fence will be installed soon. The ball fields have most of the top soil and infield gravel mix in place. There will be some final grade work here in the spring. The trails are in place, in the spring we will need to spread the limestone along the trails. Marshall may purchase the dock this winter or in the spring. He needs to put up some solar lights along the trail and add signage and they are pretty close to being done with the grant required portion of the project. The goal is to push hard to get as much done as possible before winter forces us to stop. Marshall wants to get as much done as possible.
- 6. **St. Anthonys Pocket Park Stairs:** The contract has been signed. The contractor that received the bid for the stairs has been really busy. The plan is to start work in the near

future. Marshall asked the contractor to add a concrete pad at bottom and top of stairs now and added that cost into the contract. \$11,920 which still puts the cost \$2,000 under the next lowest bid.

7. **Museum Manager Report:** None
8. **Open Discussion:** Schlehuber asked about current situation with downtown businesses. How they are doing and who is still open.
9. **Additions to the Agenda:** Marshall reports that this week the planning commission met, the board discussed a request for a variance for Dave Swope by the Zoning Board of Appeals. Dave owns the former 7th Heaven building that was destroyed by fire. The request is for the requirement for parking for residents of the mixed-use property to be waived in order to allow the construction of residential apartment units. The Planning Commission voted to support the variance and to waive the residential parking requirements for this property. Marshall previously emailed a letter from the planning commission. I know we need to provide parking for visitors but we need to make sure that we can encourage and accommodate business growth. Dayrell-Hart said planning commission doesn't grant variance. DDA does this. She asked if the DDA supports the variance. Kyle Mulka spoke about the current requirements. North said he is thankful that Swope is willing to rebuild and he is in support of Marshall writing a letter of support. Motion for Marshall to prepare a letter of support by Schlehuber and support by Litzner. Motion Carried.

Marshall Followed up on Schlehubers request to look at the food truck ordinance and he reached out to Dayrell-Hart last month. Planning Commission would like a letter of request from the DDA board with suggestions for any changes or keeping it the same. Marshall asked to form a committee to discuss this further then bring more information back to the board prior to any suggestions to the planning commission. Marshall heard from both sides. Conversation is good. Local restaurant owners don't want to see out of town vendors parking in public spaces making quick money and leaving nothing but their garbage behind and not contributing anything back into the local economy while they are working hard paying taxes year round and providing jobs year round. Proponents of food trucks want to see something permanent for the season, something attractive, giving first opportunity to current restaurant owners on their properties or a designated food court area with bathrooms and parking where vendors pay for a season lease and that money goes back into the local economy either by fee or through taxes. Marshall encourages conversation. Dayrell- Hart said that food trucks actually increase business inside local restaurants. North said there should be a committee to review the ordinance and there should be at least 2 DDA Members on the committee.

10. **Public Comment:** Dayrell-Hart spoke about the Wellness Coalitions efforts to keep the boardwalk clear this winter for walking. She talked about using the Helper Helper APP for recruiting volunteers.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Barb Yshinki