

**CITY OF ST. IGNACE**  
**DDA MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**City Council Chambers**

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

**Members Absent:** Linda Bell

**Staff Present:** DDA Director Scott Marshall, Museum Director Shirley Sorrels, City Manager Darcy Long

**Others Present:** Erich Doerr from the St. Ignace News, Mark Sposito, Deb Evashevski, Wendy Belonga, Jim Bentgen, Luke Paquin, Elle Jensen, Betsy Dayrell-Hart

Chairman Jim North called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

- I. **MINUTES:** Motion by Schlehuber, support by Ramsay to accept the minutes of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Motion Carried.
- II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None
- III. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Marshall reviewed the bills and clerk reports for July 2021. Motion by Schlehuber, support by Litzner to accept the reports. Motion carried.
- IV. **IV BUSINESS:**
  1. **Excuse absent members:** Motion by Brown support by Aukeman to excuse Bell, Motion Carried.
  - 2 **Food Truck Committee Update:** Marshall reported that the food truck committee met on July 20<sup>th</sup> and at this time the committee asked Marshall to bring the current information to the August DDA Meeting and asked the DDA Board for input and support in one direction or another. Marshall said that the committee had a lot of common ground, although they weren't in agreement on allowing vendors on public property. Marshall supports vendors on private property when there is a process and requirements in place. Marshall said that allowing vendors in public property is not fair to existing brick and mortar businesses that are paying taxes and brick and mortar associated expenses and it counter productive for filling our brick and mortar buildings in the downtown. Marshall said the public input session should of preceeded the DDA meeting to help paint a more clear picture. Schlehuber said the committee has already done a lot of research, Cheboygan, Gaylord, Petoskey and Indian River are doing it successfully. Most communities are embracing it. Munising restaurants don't feel threatened by the food trucks. Grand Marais has food trucks. Food trucks are very popular. Aukeman's concern is about the off

months of the summer season. Schlehuber said that most permits allow for busy summer season months. Dayrell-Hart suggests bringing these questions to the public. North asked if this would be for only for food vendors? Manager Long talked about public and private vending and limited licenses. Mayor Litzner asked if there would be a limited number of licenses. Schlehuber said that Moran Township allows it and it will eventually happen on both sides of town. Dayrell-Hart said the committee needs clarification if they should continue in the direction of public property or focus just on private property. Marshall said we need to look at this as mobile vendors not just food trucks. Dayrell-Hart said the committee just needs a direction. Mark Sposito said he has no problem with mobile vending on private property but does object to it on public property and stated many reasons. Deb Evashevski said she loves food trucks but totally against it on public property. She also said that the current ordinances need to be enforced. North said at this point there are more questions than answers. North asked if there possibly could be a survey sent out to the community. Marshall was excused to leave the meeting at 9am to attend a family event.

- 3 **Little Bear Park Update:** North updated the board on the Little Bear Park Project from Marshall's notes. Trail is almost ready and walkable. Marshall is pouring sidewalk and planting grass. The crowdfunding campaign has been started and Mackinac County donated \$3,000.
- 4 **Museum Manager Report:** Sorrels said that it has been a very busy July and revenue is up. North said that Sorrels and staff are doing an amazing job. The Native American Festival was well attended and outstanding. Sorrels is applying for a \$15,000 covid grant.
- 5 **Additions to the Agenda:** None
- 6 **Public Comment:** Litzner feels that food trucks and vending are very different. There are some unique offerings that we don't currently have in St. Ignace. Schlehuber said to walk the downtown there are plenty of maintenance issues with the boardwalk and other areas. Schlehuber said we need to focus on the downtown district.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:38AM

Respectfully Submitted by Barb Yshinski