

CITY OF ST. IGNACE
DDA MEETING MINUTES
January 13th, 2023
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Chairman Heather Aukeman, Vice-chair Pat Ramsay, Cheryl Schlehuber, Quincy Ranville, Erik Heffernan, Secretary Barb Yshinski, Julie Lipnitz and Tom Cronan.

Members Absent: Kristi Gustafson

Staff Present: DDA Director Scott Marshall, Museum Director Shirley Sorrels

Others Present: Erich Doerr; St. Ignace News, Stephanie Baar

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM

I. **MINUTES:** Motion by Schlehuber support by Aukeman to accept the minutes of December 9th, 2022. Motion passed.

II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

III. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Marshall reviewed the bills and the clerk revenue and expense Reports for December 2022. Motion by Aukeman support by Cronan to accept the financial report for December 2022. Motion Passed

IV. **BUSINESS:**

1. **Excuse Absent Board Members:** Motion by Ranville support Schlehuber to excuse Gustafson. Motion passed.

2. **Welcome Julie Lipnitz to the DDA Board:** Marshall introduced Lipnitz. Members welcomed her to the board.

3. **Election of Officer:** Ramsay nominated Aukeman as Chairperson, support by Ranville. Schlehuber motion for Aukeman as Chairperson, Ramsay as Vice Chairperson and Yshinski as secretary, Ranville support. Motion carried.

4. **Set regular monthly meetings time and place:** Cronan motion to keep meetings on the second Friday of the Month, 8am at city hall. Support Schlehuber. Motion carried.

5. **Boardwalk Update and Presentation:** Marshall provided a presentation of the boardwalk improvements for 2022 with before and after pictures. Marshall updated the board on the MEDC Crowdfunding grant. Marshall announced that the Visitor Bureau just donated \$10,000 to the boardwalk project. Marshall has been advertising for contractors. 2x4 Construction has been the only contractor to answer the ad. 2x4 Construction is going to donate their labor to the Connor Park boardwalk section. Marshall informed the board that Mr. Azzar removed the section of boardwalk behind 477 North State, the only section of boardwalk that the city

doesn't have an updated easement. Marshall said he had been in communication and trying to schedule a meeting with Mr. Azzar. Schlehuber said that the city should find out if the owner would like to sell the property. Cronan said we need a back up plan if the negotiations fail.

- 6. American Legion Security Camera Project Update:** Marshall presented the board with a bid tabulation for security cameras and installation at the American Legion Park. Marshall recommended Calvin Burnside who was the low bidder. The marina has their camera system with Burnside. Cronan motion to accept the \$5000 bid from Burnside. Ranville Support. Motion carried.
- 7. DDA Budget Committee RE: 2023 Street Paving Project:** Marshall set the budget committee met on Dec 21st, 2022 and decided to contribute \$75,00 to the 2023 street paving project which includes some roads in the DDA District. The DDA collects \$12,500 a year for road improvement in the DDA District. The last road paved the Ojibwa Trail was 6 years ago. Marshall explained that the reason we collect this tax to spur road improvements in the DDA District. Cronan made a motion to take \$75,000 out of fund balance to contribute to the 2023 Street Paving Project for DDA Roads. Support Aukeman. Motion carried.
- 8. DDA Director Report:** Marshall attended planning commission meeting January 10th, 2023. Updating the zoning ordinances is on the agenda as part of the Redevelopment Readiness Program. Marshall said he is applying for grants for the rudder plaque and sidewalk art.
- 9. Museum Manager Report:** Sorrels reports that the museum received a \$25,000 grant from Michigan Humanities. Sorrels discussed the plans for the traveling exhibit. Sorrels asked permission to apply for specific grants for upcoming projects. Board agreed that if Marshall or Sorrels would like to apply for grants they have the board approval for future grants. Sorrels plans a ribbon cutting ceremony for the pavilion on May 15th, 2023.
- 10. Open Discussion:** Cronan complimented the Historical Building for the Christmas light display. Board discussed upcoming community events.
- 11. Public Comment:** None

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:15AM

Respectfully Submitted by Barb Yshinski