**CITY OF ST. IGNACE**

**DDA MEETING MINUTES**

**July 8th, 2022
City Council Chambers**

**Members Present:** Chairman Jim North, Heather Aukeman, Pat Ramsay, Barb Yshinski, Barb Brown, Kristi Gustafson, Cheryl Schlehuber and Tom Cronan.

**Members Absent:** Phil Ruegg

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

**Others Present:** Stephanie Baar, Erich Doerr and Jim Draze

Meeting called to order at 8:01 AM

1. **MINUTES:** Motion by Schlehuber, support by Cronan to accept the minutes of June 10th. 2022. Motion Passed.
2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**: Marshall (1), Schlehuber (1)
3. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Marshall reviewed the bills and the financial reports for June 2022. Motion by Schlehuber, support by Cronan to accept the bills and the financial report. Motion Passed.
4. IV **BUSINESS:**
5. **Excuse Absent Board Members:** Motion by Ramsay, Support by Cronan to excuse Ruegg. Motion passed.
6. **Peddler’s Ordinance Update:** Marshall reported that the Planning Commission presented the proposed amendments to council Tuesday July 5th, 2022. The City Council unanimously approved the amendments. North thanked the planning commission for their work. July 15th will be the access date. Discussion about enforcement. Jim Draze said the application will do the heavy lifting for the city.
7. **Community Cultural Pavilion Update:** Marshall reported that the pavilion was ordered after the June meeting. There is a 12 week shipping date. Marshall is waiting on the engineering plans and collecting pledge money.
8. **Little Bear Park Update:** Marshall reports that the fishing deck is completed. Marshall and Fraser have been working at the park in their spare time to install the storm drains. The fishing deck has already been used for senior pictures. A resident caught and released a perch from the fishing deck. No swimming signs were suggested. Marshall said the playground equipment is being installed.
9. **Boardwalk:**  Marshall said that Enbridge pledged $25,000 toward the boardwalk project. Marshall has met with the city manager. Marshall will start MEDC Patronicity grant for the boardwalk as soon as he wraps up the current pavilion campaign. Marshall suggest using concrete to replace wood anytime that the boardwalk sits below grade. Concrete is the most affordable option and the easiest to maintain and replace. Marshall said that the ideal option is asphalt but it would be too expensive now and in the future for maintenance. Marshall said many communities use asphalt, concrete and even crushed limestone. Discussion on easements and fundraising.
10. **DDA Bylaws:** Marshall reminded the board that the city is in the process of becoming a Redevelopment Ready Community which opens up more grant options. The DDA needs to update their bylaws. Marshall presented the board with a sample from another community. A committee was formed, North, Gustafson and Cronan. Aukeman will serve as an alternate.
11. **Director’s Report:**  Marshall said that the banners are up. Marshall discussed talked about previous banner protocol and last years experience. Marshall suggests putting the banners up in the spring and taking them down in the fall. There should be only (1) banner allowed per pole. Currently there are 24 hometown hero banners. The program is popular. Marshall suggests creating a list for future banner prospects. Marshall doesn’t want the public works to put up 1 banner at a time. Need to wait until there are a minimum of 10 banners to install to make it easier for DPW. Maybe replace some of the 350th banners with new hometown hero banners or add a hometown hero banner on the back of the light poles that have American Flags. Great program recognizing our veterans just need to make sure that we manage it properly and affordably. Marshall talked about the vandalism and said he is applying for a MMRMA grant for cameras. The cameras will cost $9,000. The grant is a 50/50 match. Marshall said he is applying for a MACC Grant which would pay for leadership training for the city. Marshall spoke with Brian Bosley about putting on a presentation. Bosley said he would give the city a discounted rate.
12. **Museum Report:** Sorrels said that the museum is very busy. A lot of projects happening at the same time. Sorrels received the $25,000 check from the county for $15,000 for the pavilion and $10,000 for painting. Marshall and Sorrels visited with Tony Earl and family while they were in town. Sorrels working with Marshall on adding Native American history signs along the boardwalk. Sorrels talked about the Gyftakis property and the Father Marquette event. Sorrels said that more available parking is needed.
13. **Additions to the Agenda**: Marshall presented the board with the bid proposals for the financing of the Gyftakis Property. Marshall suggested the fixed rate option from Central Savings. The bid deadline was July 5th. The bids were opened by Marshall, Olsen and Long. Motion by Cronan support by Schlehuber to accept Marshall’s recommendation of the Central Savings fixed rate proposal. Motion carried.
Schlehuber talked about the need for pickleball courts in our community. Schlehuber asked if there is an opportunity for courts at the Little Bear Sports Park. Open discussion about pickleball courts from the board.
14. **Open Discussion:** Schlehuber said the Emporium looks great. Cronan said the Farmers Market is outgrowing their current location. Cronan asked about marijuana dispensaries in the downtown. The board does not want dispensaries in the downtown.
15. **Public Comment:** Jim Draze talked about parking. The next planning commission meeting will discuss parking options.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:33AM

Respectfully Submitted by Barb Yshinski