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Brandon E. Wescott, Director
Wyandotte Downtown Development Authority

October 14th, 2009

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The Wyandotte DDA was called to order at 5:30 PM on Tuesday October 13th, 2009 in the Wyandotte City Council Chambers, 3131 Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte, MI. Members in attendance included: Mayor Joseph Peterson, Chair Tony Trupiano, Arta Chiparo, Gilbert Rose, Patt Slack, Norm Walker, Patrick VanDeHey, Gerry Lucas, and Brandon Wescott. Greg Gilbert was not in attendance as he requested to be excused prior to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Peterson motioned for approval of the agenda as presented, seconded by Gerry Lucas, all voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Arta Chiparo motioned for approval of the September 8th, 2009 Regular DDA Meeting minutes, seconded by Patrick VanDeHey, all voted in favor. Mayor Peterson motioned for approval of the September 24th, 2009 Present Design & Promotion Committee minutes, seconded by Gerry Lucas, all voted in favor. Mayor Peterson motioned for approval of the September 25th, 2009 Masonic Temple Meeting minutes, seconded by Arta Chiparo, all voted in favor.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Jim Lange of the 20 Chestnut condominiums presented to the DDA that the associations of 20 Chestnut, Riverwalk and Biddlewalk condominiums will be hosting a meeting to discuss common issues for the residents in the downtown on November 9th, 2009 at 7 PM in the lobby of 20 Chestnut. Brandon Wescott noted that he would attend the meeting on behalf of DDA and be the official liaison for communication purposes.

Mr. Rich Cieslowski was present representing the Wyandotte Jaycees and their proposal of the Santa's Wyandotte Christmas Village. The DDA Board was in agreement with what the Wyandotte Jaycees had proposed and Patt Slack motioned for Brandon Wescott to coordinate and assist Mr. Cieslowski with individual City department approval to ensure that the proposed project has full support, seconded by Arta Chiparo, all voted in favor.

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INFORMATION TO RECEIVE AND FILE

The monthly revenue/expenditure report was presented, a roll call vote for approval was offered and all voted in favor. The monthly budget line item report was presented, a roll call vote was offered and all voted in favor.

Tony Trupiano delivered the Chairperson's Report highlighting the new Motor City Metaljackets Hockey Club playing out of the Yack Arena. He noted that the level of play of the hockey was very good and that the organization has presented itself in a very professional manner.

Brandon Wescott delivered the Director's Report, noting that Census Coordination was going well, and that the City of Wyandotte will be receiving its LUCA information back to make sure they are satisfied with the canvassing of the Census Bureau. It was also noted that the City's strategic planning was also going well with work being done on the Mission and Vision for the City. Lastly, Brandon Wescott noted that on Thursday October 15th, 2009 he would be heading to Niles, MI with eight volunteers for the Michigan Main Street Basic Training.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public Comment was offered.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Agenda Item 7 a 1 – Brandon Wescott noted that he followed up with the Engineering Department of the removal of signs downtown when businesses vacate. Mr. Wescott provided a recent letter to a downtown property highlighting the procedure for following city code and he noted that this was strictly enforced.

Agenda Item 7 a 2 – The issue of parking downtown was discussed as it has been brought to the attention of Brandon Wescott that employees and owners of businesses downtown park in front of their properties limiting access to other patrons. It was also noted that designated parking spots for pickup of certain businesses should also be explored. Gerry Lucas motioned to have Brandon Wescott write a letter to downtown businesses encouraging them to not allow employees to park in front of their business, and to also write a letter of communication to City Council to draft an ordinance that would allow a business to apply for designated pickup parking near their establishment, seconded by Patt Slack, all voted in favor.

Agenda Item 7 a 3 – Brandon Wescott noted that an idea had been presented to him about selling the old banners downtown in an effort to raise money for other projects. Mr. Wescott noted that the recent addition of the PennSalt WWII plaque would be a worthy project to dedicate and that he would begin advertising the sale

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of the old banners for this effort or other efforts to help display this or other items. Gilbert Rose motioned for approval of the initiative, seconded by Mayor Peterson, all voted in favor.

Agenda Item 7 a 4 – Brandon Wescott noted that he had met with a representative of Magic Radio to discuss a potential Christmas Marketing Campaign and Tony Trupiano added that no details had been determined but a holiday marketing campaign would be a worthwhile venture to generate foot traffic during the winter season. It was noted to partner with the WBA and to investigate the production of a new local first commercial to be aired on local TV. It was recommended to investigate a few different options and to keep the DDA Board informed about those opportunities so action could be taken on the item at the November 2009 DDA meeting.

Agenda Item 7 a 5 – The idea of a farmers market in Downtown Wyandotte had been expressed at the last Present Design & Promotion Committee meeting and it was noted that in the past different ideas have been offered for its placement, location, and operation. Brandon Wescott noted that it had been identified on the City's strategic planning survey, and offered to continue to keep this item on the Present Design and Promotion Committee's agenda as well as work with the WBA on expanding this initiative.

Agenda Item 7 a 6 – Pricing and a policy for the purchase of the new banner splices was briefly talked about and it was recommended for Brandon Wescott to produce a pricing schedule and purchase policy for approval at the November 2009 meeting.

Agenda Item 7 a 7 – Brandon Wescott informed the DDA Board that the Totem Pole was now staged at the DPS garage and that Mr. George Gouth had been in contact with him on its progress. It was noted that at this time the Totem Pole was being dried out as it had some water damage. It was also noted that the old beam support and concrete anchor should be removed so a new support could be installed as this would then conform to present standards.

Agenda Item 7 a 8 – Brandon Wescott asked the DDA Board if the Purple Heart Memorial Garden dedication plaques honoring the DDA Board for their support of the project were satisfactory and the consensus of the DDA Board was that they were very pleased with the recognition of their involvement with the project.

Agenda Item 7 a 9 – Brandon Wescott noted that two DDA Board Members had asked about hosting a property tour similar to the events held in Rochester and Romeo, Michigan. Mr. Wescott noted that he would approach City Council on the initiative and also advertise for at least ten property owners/brokers to participate in the project.

Agenda Item 7 a 10 – Brandon Wescott noted that Mr. Al Sutton had asked about purchasing a new smoke machine and lights for the Christmas Float, and also new lights for the metal deer. Mayor Peterson
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motioned to allow the purchase of a smoke machine and lights, seconded by Patrick VanDeHey, all voted in favor.

Agenda Item 7 b 1 – Brandon Wescott informed the DDA Board and viewing public that the next Michigan Main Street Training Date would be held November 13th, 2009 in Old Town Lansing, MI. Anyone who is interested in attending is welcome to go.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: November 10th, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

Gilbert Rose motioned for adjournment, seconded by Arta Chiparo, all voted in favor to adjourn.