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DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 9th, 2014

Council Chambers, 3200 Biddle Avenue, Suite 300, Wyandotte, MI 48192

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Jarjosa, Gerry Lucas, Greg Gilbert, Anne Madjlinger, Peter Rose, Patt Slack, Leo Stevenson and Norm Walker.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mayor Joseph Peterson

OTHER PRESENT: Jason & Amanda D'Herin (owner of 2903 Biddle), Alex Bohl (owner of 142 Maple), Jeremy Sladovnick (owner Joe's Hamburgers) and Dan Cataldo (WBA representative).

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jeremy Sladovnick thanked the board for the \$4,000.00 grant which the DDA awarded for expansion of Joe's Hamburgers. Mr. Sladovnick indicated that his business is doing well since the move. He also noted that his wife's salon: Salon Mischa is celebrating 10 years this year with a Portofino boat ride fundraiser on October 2nd. Proceeds will benefit the Yes Ma'am program at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. Tickets may be purchased at Salon Mischa, 112 Oak Street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: P. Slack welcomed new board member, Anne Madjlinger to the DDA board. N. Rankine thanked Dr. VanDeHey for his years of service to the DDA board. Ms. Madjlinger will sit on the Design & Promotions Subcommittee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA:

Motion by G. Lucas supported by G. Gilbert to approve of the minutes from the August meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

INFORMATION TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE:

- a. WBA Wine Crawl Plan: Dan Cataldo spoke about the successes and challenges of the Wine Crawl. He also spoke about the upcoming Beer Fest which happens on Friday, September 19th.

Motion by G. Gilbert supported by G. Lucas to receive the WBA Wine Crawl Plan and place on file. All in favor, motion carried.

MONTHLY REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORT:

Motion by L. Stevenson, supported by P. Rose to approve of the monthly revenue and expenditure report. Roll Call, all in favor, motion carried.

ONGOING PROJECTS AND BUSINESS:

- a. WBA Update: N. Rankine indicated that the WBA/DDA 2015 Fiscal Year contract was approved by City Council on September 8th. She will see that the contract is signed by the WBA, DDA, Mayor and placed on file with the City Clerk's office.
- b. Oak Street Parking Lot: N. Rankine indicated that the Engineering Department has not completed the revised layout. She said that is highly unlikely that the lot would be constructed this fall. The plan is to re-construct the lot before the Farmers Market opens in May. Once the bids are received, the DDA will then be able to make a determination about how much they want to invest in the reconstruction of the lot.
- c. Farmers Market: N. Rankine spoke about the Farmers Market. The market has 4 more weeks of operation. Events and programming for the upcoming market days include: a baking contest and live music.
- d. Outdoor Cafes: City attorney supplied the DDA with information relative to the inquiry by Mr. Stevenson relative to the DDA's request for addition of outdoor cafés as a requirement for new restaurants in the DDA District.
- e. Hotel Feasibility Study: N. Rankine presented the board with a preliminary copy of the Hotel Study. The final study should be finished next week.
- f. Viaduct: G. Gilbert asked that for the next fiscal year that we request that a representative of the high school present to the board for the next year.
- g. 3061 & 3063 Biddle: Mr. Daly has demolished the adjacent (3063 Biddle) property and is working on asbestos abatement and demolition in the building. The Commercial Facilities Exemption Certificate (CFEC) for the former hotel development was revoked by council at Monday's Council meeting.
- h. 3131 Biddle Avenue: MJC was not awarded the grant from MSHDA for this project. MJC is working toward obtaining funding from the MEDC.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Grant requests: The DDA grant committee received two grant requests from the new owners of 142 Maple (former Studio 142) and 2903 Biddle Avenue (former Why Not Costume Shop). N. Rankine indicated that there was \$6,500.00 remaining in the Business Assistance account.

142 Maple will be renovated into Lost Lake Distillery and is owned by Alex Bohl. The committee recommended a \$5,000.00 grant for this project.

Motion by L. Stevenson, supported by P. Slack to award a façade grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Business Assistance Account to Jason D'Herin of 142 Maple. Roll Call, all in favor, motion carried.

2903 Biddle Avenue will be restored as it was in the 1940s and is owned by Jason & Amanda D'Herin. The committee recommended a \$5,000.00 grant for this project.

Motion by N. Walker, supported by G. Gilbert to transfer \$3,500.00 from Fund Balance to Business Assistance account number 499-200-925-801 and to award a façade grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Business Assistance Account for Alex Bohl of 2903 Biddle Avenue. Roll Call, all in favor, motion carried.

- b. Business procurement/consultant: N. Rankine spoke about meeting with the futuring committee about this new venture. The subcommittee will meet on September 24th at 8:00 am.
- c. 2015 DDA Guidebook: N. Rankine indicated that letters for the 2015 Guidebook will be mailed next week. The guidebook will be printed before the end of November.
- d. P. Rose asked about how Wyandotte can be included in Pure Michigan ad campaigns. N. Rankine will look into this.

P. Rose said that his father inquired about new trash cans and benches. N. Rankine indicated that the DDA will purchase 8 additional trash cans downtown after the new fiscal year, but that money hadn't been put in the budget for benches. She indicated that this would have to be a future initiative. The committee discussed.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

October 14th, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by G. Lucas, supported by N. Walker to adjourn the meeting, all in favor, motion carried.