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DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 14th, 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.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mayor Joseph Peterson, Norm Walker

OTHER PRESENT: Ron Kaslowski, business owner

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ron Kalowski approached the DDA regarding the possibility of grants for his business. He is looking at opening a wine bar in the city. N. Rankine indicated that she would contact him to give him the details of the DDA grant program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA:

Motion by G. Lucas supported by P. Slack to approve of the minutes from the September meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by G. Lucas supported by A. Madjlinger to approve of the minutes from the September meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

INFORMATION TO RECEIVE AND PLACE ON FILE:

- a. WBA Wine Beer Fest Plan: The committee discussed the upcoming WBA Beer Fest event to occur on Friday, October 17th. N. Rankine mentioned that select Farm Market vendors would be on-site.

Motion by G. Lucas supported by P. Slack to receive the WBA Beer Fest plan and place on file. All in favor, motion carried.

MONTHLY REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORT:

Motion by P. Slack, supported by L. Stevenson 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 2015 Fiscal year contract was signed and placed on file with the Clerk's office. Additionally, the WBA is current in all of their reports due to the DDA.
- b. Oak Street Parking Lot: N. Rankine indicated that the finance committee is scheduled to meet regarding how to finance the reconstruction of the Oak Street parking lot and which scheme to recommend to Mayor and City Council.
- c. Farmers Market: N. Rankine spoke about the success of the Farmers Market in 2014. The market is now closed for the season.
- d. Hotel Feasibility Study: N. Rankine presented the board with the final copy of the Hotel Study. The results were very favorable. P. Rose indicated that the study contained a lot of good information. The study will be presented to Mayor and City council at a future meeting with the intent to resume discussions with Cobblestone Hotels or another hotel chain.
- e. Vacant property updates:

3061 & 3063 Biddle (former Sears Building): Mr. Daly has demolished the adjacent (3063 Biddle) property and is working on asbestos abatement and demolition in the building. L. Stevenson requested that Daly-Merritt submit a timeline of construction to the DDA for this project. N. Rankine said that they are still awaiting word on the MEDC Grant, but should hear soon.
- f. 2929 Biddle Avenue: N. Rankine indicated that the owners of Lions Tigers and Beers have submitted plans for an outdoor café (brick piers and fencing) and utilization of the adjacent building as the new LTB. They indicated at the most recent Design Review Committee meeting that construction for this should be complete prior to the Christmas Parade which is held on November 22nd. The owners indicated that their target date for opening is March of 2014. L. Stevenson asked about what recourse the DDA might have if they don't meet the schedule. N. Rankine indicated that she would ask Mr. Look, but believes that it would fall under property maintenance.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Downriver Council for the Arts: Tammy Trudelle, Director of the DCA presented the DDA board with information regarding the DCA programs, and events from the past few years. Currently, the DDA funds the DCA at the city-owned James R. DeSana Center for Arts and Culture. The DCA is given a \$49,500.00 grant each year. The board has requested financials from the DCA and N. Rankine will bring them to the next meeting. The finance committee will meet in the upcoming months to discuss to what extent this project should be funded in the future.
- b. Marina Committee: L. Stevenson updated the DDA about the marina committee meetings. At this point, the committee is waiting for the engineering firm to prepare documents so that the project may be bid. Stevenson noted that it was important for the committee to have up-to-date construction costs to work with. N. Rankine indicated that she would have the results of the marina study at the next meeting.

- c. Christmas Decorations: P. Slack discussed some ideas for the decorations and said that the Design & Promotions Committee will meet next week to finalize plans for the 2014 season.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

November 11th, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by P. Rose, supported by P. Slack to adjourn the meeting, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Rankine