

**Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
March 5, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 am by Jim Delemeester.

Members present: Sue Bare, Jim Delemeester, Pam Ginderske, Joe Kline, Kathy Westervelt, and Lorie Wille

Others Present: Hartmann Aue and Richard Hoerner

Motion by Ginderske, second by Kline to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.

Motion by Kline, second by Ginderske to approve the February D.D.A. minutes. Motion carried.

Planning Commission and Village Council minutes were accepted and filed.

Aue presented Community Wayfinding Signing information. The Authority would like to see mock ups of signs with locations. Willie mentioned it is a difficult corner to read signage, but this may assist better than the electric sign. Aue sent a wayfinding information email with the state community wayfinding guidelines. Motion to table by Kline, second by Westervelt. Motion carried.

The Façade Grant for the Bad River Bar & Grill was reviewed. No further action was required.

Aue mentioned the 2021-2022 D.D.A. budget and bids are coming in for the Goodrich Building door upgrades and back entrance. Delemeester mentioned the rough shape of the alley behind the Goodrich Building and thinks it needs to be included in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Aue mentioned Rowe Engineering will be hosting a kick off meeting with the Village Council, Planning Commission, ZBA, and D.D.A. likely in May to discuss zoning and code ordinances. Kline inquired on the blighted building downtown, and Aue mentioned he would like to see a vacant building ordinance included into the rewrite. Aue noted that Julie Birchmeier's building is for sale and that Dr. Kline's Clinic may be available due to his retirement.

Delemeester asked if meetings will be in person going forward due to, "The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an updated Gatherings and Face Mask Order that will allow for indoor meetings of 25 persons or fewer. The order takes effect on Friday, March 5, 2021, at 12:01 AM and remains in effect through Monday, April 19, 2021, at 11:59 PM. This allows for public bodies to conduct public meetings in-person following certain guidelines and restrictions, if they so choose.

Under the order, indoor gatherings at non-residential venues are allowed as long as there are no more than 25 people gathered at one time. There is no limitation on the number of households, but you must adhere to social distancing, mitigation measures and adopt heightened standards of facility cleaning per the changes to the Open Meetings Act in Public Act 254 of 2020.

While the order lifts capacity requirements, it does not require public bodies to meet in person. Public meetings may continue to be held virtually for any reason *before* March 31, 2021. As per usual, the virtual meeting "must allow for two-way communication between members of the public and members of the public body, and must be properly noticed. The notice must include why the public body is meeting virtually, how the public, including those with disabilities, are able to participate, and how the public may contact members of the public body to provide input or ask questions. Also, publish the notice on the public body's website at least 18 hours before the meeting is scheduled to be held, and the meeting agenda online at least two hours before the meeting begins." Willie prefers in person. Aue mentioned he will have both options available based on personal preference. Kline inquired if in person will persons be required to, "wear a mask, social distance, and provide proof of vaccination." Aue informed that masks and socially distancing will be the norm, but the sound system will be on with the microphone next to the computer for those attending virtually.

There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 am. Motion by Westervelt, second by Willie. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

Hartmann Aue