

**Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 14, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 am by Chairwoman Westervelt.

Members present: Victoria Devereaux, John Gerber, Pam Ginderske, Joe Kline, Nicole Risch, Kathy Westervelt, Lorie Wille, and Karen Wood,

Members absent: None

Others Present: Hartmann Aue, Edgar Tithof, Cornford's youngest daughter, & Risch Children

Motion by Ginderske, second by Kline to accept the agenda with changes. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Kline, second by Ginderske to approve the March D.D.A. minutes without changes. Motion carried.

Motion by Gerber, second by Cornford to receive quotes to fix the ripped paneling at the entrance of the Goodrich Building. Motion carried.

The "wish list" of DDA projects was discussed. Wood mentioned the water tower is rusty, Aue is currently working with Spicer, Bill Voorheis, and Bob Richmond to get this done. The "you'll do better in Chesaning" sign is an eye sore. The DDA has reached out to Lamarr to get this changed or eliminated. It is a terrible look for our town and we want it gone. Risch also mentioned the billboard as well as working on the boat launch. Gerber mentioned possible plans he would like to see on the boulevard. Devereaux seconded the ideas of Gerber mentioned a nice monument or mural for photos, Risch concurred, as well as event banners, and a new festival in town. Perhaps we could bring back Coal Miners' Days with a 5k run, walk, and roll. Aue mentioned he would love to work on this. The downtown blighted, vacant buildings were then discussed. DDA wants something done to enhance downtown with the ideas everyone has brought forward. Aue discussed plans, the land bank, and the mortgage issues potentially with the properties.

Motion by Cornford, second by Willie to enter negotiations with the building's owner on possible purchase of the properties. Motion carried.

Cam's Brick Oven submitted a façade grant application to update paint, power wash, and signage on the old Rustic. The D.D.A.'s portion would be \$5609.33. Motion by Gerber, second by Wille. Motion carried.

One of the twenty new planters purchased by the D.D.A. was brought in for viewing. D.D.A. discussed the need for volunteers and help on Beautification Day. Cornford mentioned that John Dusek has the flowers growing at the greenhouse currently. He believes a 50/50 soil blend would be best for the planters and due to the size and soil type, the planters would require watering every 2 to 3 days per week.

The discussion on helping to pay for new asphalt in the downtown alley was squashed.

Aue brought in a change order for the kayak launch. Due to the location of the launch and river height, DPW has encouraged purchasing 20-foot flow decking. This would add approximately \$5,000 to the total of the launch. Motion by Kline, second by Ginderske to pay the new, updated invoice for the kayak launch. Motion carried.

Strike Zone submitted the receipts to their D.D.A. façade grant application. The final cost was \$679.25 over the projected cost. Motion by Wood, second by Risch to approve the additional total in application cost to finalized cost. Motion carried.

Gerber discussed plans for a future, perhaps next month, façade grant application on behalf of the Bad River Bar & Grill that will include outdoor seating, upgrades with garage style doors and all. Very exciting changes being made to downtown.

The Easter Egg Hunt debriefing was discussed. It was much better organized this year, with still room for improvements. The extra help and volunteers made a huge difference. Next year, Easter is earlier and will give us time to maneuver as not to compete with surrounding municipalities in order to bring in more hunters. A big thanks to everyone that helped, donated, and spent time on April 8, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 am. Motion by Kline, second by Ginderske. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hartmann Aue". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Hartmann Aue