

**Downtown Development Authority**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**March 1, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:45 am by Chairwoman Westervelt. A moment of silence was held for Karen Wood, a long time D.D.A. member and supporter of village businesses and economic development.

Members present: Kelly Cornford, Victoria Devereaux, Pam Ginderske, Joe Kline, Nicole Risch, Jennifer Rosser-Nesbit, Kathy Westervelt, and Lorie Wille

Members absent:

Others Present: Hartmann Aue and Nannette Pretzer

Motion by Rosser-Nesbit, second by Ginderske to accept the agenda with changes, C. Flower Pots. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Ginderske, second by Rosser-Nesbit to approve the February 2, 2024 D.D.A. minutes. Motion carried.

The D.D.A. is owner of the Goodrich Building, housing several local businesses and the state of Michigan Secretary of State office. To show our support of these businesses, and to take pride in our ownership Aue would like to get some quotes to update the inside of the building. It currently has outdated wall paper and holes in the wall. Risch et.al. suggested using MVC Home Improvements a local construction company that has updated a lot of homes in St. Charles. Aue will contact for a quote. Devereaux toured the building suggesting fresh paint and some wainscoting.

Aue submitted an Easement Agreement for the property W. Water Street, 24-10-3-05-0404-001, to work out a plowing, painting, improvements, taxation plan for abutting parties. The same agreement was sent to property owners for review and discussion. Motion by Kline to table further discussion, second by Rosser-Nesbit. Motion carried.

Last year, the D.D.A. purchased 20, 33” matte black flowering pots for Beautification Day, and to spruce up the downtown. Cornford suggested getting prepared for planting by letting John Dusek know what to plant, and to start as soon as possible, in the future perhaps January. As Cornford and Family did the planting last season, it was suggested to approve monies for her to pick out and plan the plots once again. Motion by Rosser-Nesbit to approve \$3,500 to purchase plants for the flower pots to be picked by Cornford and Dusek. Second by Risch. Motion carried.

The 2024 Easter Egg Hunt was discussed. We have 800 eggs, age group dividers and signs, several food trucks, and volunteers for March 16<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers and D.D.A. supporters will arrive at 8:30 a.m. for the 10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt. Someone will be in a costume, and it may not be Aue due to sizing.

Nanette Pretzer brought mock ups of the D.D.A. Façade Grant supported, Library Mural. The D.D.A. suggested adding St. Charles, Michigan somewhere on the mural so people that see it on Facebook will know where they can come view it. Pretzer will be doing press releases and be informing news outlets for more coverage. The D.D.A. will do a ribbon cutting to draw positive attention to the mural. The D.D.A. gave a vote in support of the mural. Motion by Risch, second by Devereaux. Motion carried.

Aue met with a company that performs laser drone shows for events. Aue is thinking the Old-Fashioned Christmas event needs one and will be working with Sky Elements and the D.D.A. to make this dream a reality.

The D.D.A. currently has one vacancy due to the passing of Mrs. Karen Wood. The D.D.A. is accepting letters of interest from business minded individuals who seek to better the development and economic growth of downtown St. Charles.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 a.m. Motion by Kline, second by Rosser-Nesbit. Motion carried.

Respectfully,

Hartmann Aue