

**CITY OF LAPEER  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2016**

A regular meeting of the City of Lapeer Downtown Development Authority was held in the Conference Room at Lapeer City Hall, 576 Liberty Park, Lapeer, Michigan on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Chairman Dan Gerlach, Ms. Jolane Grossbauer, Mr. Ray Davis, Mr. Tom Benton, Mr. Pat Hingst, Mr. Bruce Cady, Ms. Catherine Bostick-Tullius, Mr. Dan Sharkey and Mr. Dan Osentoski.

**Members Absent:** Vice Chairman Tim Roodvoets, Mr. Tony Macksoud, Mr. Doug Hodge and Mr. Bill Sprague.

**Also Present:** Mr. Jim Alt, Executive Director, and Mr. Todd Alexander, Public Safety Director.

Chairman Gerlach called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Ms. Bostick-Tullius and supported by Mr. Osentoski to approve the Consent Agenda for September 28, 2016 as follows:

1. Approval of minutes of regular DDA meeting held on August 24, 2016; and
2. Approval of Treasurer Report and Bill Listing.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee**

There was not a report.

**Design Committee**

Mr. Alt reported no new sign or facade loan applications have been received and that the facade loan application packet has been revised to include availability of \$2,500 in architectural assistance.

It was the consensus of the board not to convene to a Lapeer Main Street, Inc. meeting.

**Property Maintenance/Beautification Committee**

There was not a report.

**Development Committee**

There was not a report.

### **Center for the Arts Council Liaison**

Ms. Grossbauer updated the board on Center for the Arts activities including the recent annual meeting, the \$21,000 MCACA grant award, upcoming exhibits and performances, art classes, youth theatre classes, website updates, installation of the new window and stated the 2016-2017 season brochure will be available soon.

### **Chamber of Commerce Liaison**

It was noted the Chamber of Commerce has submitted their final payment of \$6,000 for the balance owed for the downtown electrical improvement loan.

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Executive Director**

#### **Online Fundraising Savings Account**

Mr. Alt requested a separate savings account be established to link to online donations and fundraising projects and reviewed the process for soliciting funds by online donations and crowd funding projects. After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Osentoski and supported by Ms. Bostick-Tullius to establish a separate account for online donations.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Michigan Main Street Program**

Mr. Alt updated the board on Michigan Main Street Steering Committee activities including completing the Select Level application, developing a Mission Statement, determining the district boundaries and recent webinars. Mr. Alt reported he provided a presentation on the Main Street Program to the Rotary Club and has set up an informational booth during the Farmers' Market.

Mr. Alt updated the board on recent and upcoming Coffee with the Commish meetings, social media activity and new business openings. Mr. Alt reported he is maintaining the available properties and office space list which is available online and stated he will distribute the list to local realtors. Mr. Alt also updated the board on improvements being made to the courthouse columns and the Beyer's Furniture building facade.

Ms. Bostick-Tullius updated the board on a follow up meeting with the City Manager regarding the concerns raised by downtown businesses regarding the Building Department discussed at the last DDA board meeting.

Mr. Alt updated the board on the Team Work MEDC facade loan application, installation of the Lapeer high school spirit flags, ideas for a Lapeer hash tag and an upcoming WMPC live radio interview. Mr. Alt reviewed the various downtown October events including the Treat Walk, the Optimist Club's Nightmare on Nepessing event, the Zombie Walk and The Great Pumpkin Artist Supporting Kids art display. Mr. Alt updated the board on the successful Oktoberfest event, the Women's Expo event scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> and the final Monday Car Cruise event held September 12<sup>th</sup> which included over 200 participating cars.

Mr. Alt reported he is working with the Chamber of Commerce on coordinating efforts to promote the Winter Fest and Light Up Lapeer campaign.

Discussion was held regarding the plan for the courthouse Christmas tree lights and the upcoming relocation of Pueblo Viejo Mexican Restaurant to the former Empire Wok Chinese buffet building on Genesee Street.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **M-24 Electronic Sign**

Mr. Alt reported Signs by Crannie submitted a quote of \$37,350 for a new full color, high resolution with motion electronic sign and that he should have a price quote from Craig's Signs by the end of the week. Discussion was held regarding potential issues with raising the sign height, a DTE grant application available to fund a portion of the new sign cost, charging businesses for use of the sign and investigating an alternate location for the sign.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Bostick-Tullius updated the board on a TIFA legislation update provided at the MML meeting concerning transparency and special millage capture.

Mr. Hingst updated the board on the reopening of Tilted Axis Brewery and a VIP event scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was the consensus of the board to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

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Mr. Tom Benton  
Secretary