

Munising Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes of Meeting  
March 16, 2022  
Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center, 8am

**Members Present:** Dale Immel, Travis Cross, Rick Bowerman, Debbie Nedeau, Mike Nettleton

**Members Absent:** Cori Cearley (e), Tom Hall (e), Pat Gariepy (u)

**Others Present:** Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Brice Burge

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dale at 8:01 am.

**Approval of Agenda:** Rick made a motion to approve the agenda, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

**Public Comment:**

a. Funding Request: Alger Parks & Rec/Sheena Malone – Concerts in the Park: Alger Parks & Rec is requesting funding of \$500 for Concerts in the Park. Sheena said there will be a total of 12 concerts this year, starting June 14 and running through August with 9 currently booked. They have received a Michigan Arts & Culture Council grant, generous sponsorship from the Munising Visitors Bureau and they will receive sponsorships from other organizations and businesses. The board will take the request under advisement and a decision will be made at the next DDA meeting. Sheena left at 8:04.

b. Funding Request: 4<sup>th</sup> of July/Sean Hayes – 6 activities (\$2,600): The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee is requesting a total of \$2,600 in funding for 6 different activities: Air Machine Game \$400, Greased Pole \$300, Fireworks \$500, Entertainment \$500, Mystery Person \$400, Sanitation \$500. Sean said the budget for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is between \$32,000 and \$37,000 with the majority being for the fireworks. This year they will have a better focus on sanitation with the bathrooms and garbage. It was suggested that they close the public restrooms and utilize more port a potties. They are also changing the entertainment and will have Jim Supanich from Sombrero Sound providing the sound equipment and will feature 3-4 live bands in the pavilion. They are also looking for individual volunteers and would like organizations to sign on to run booths. You can see David Bowerman at Gallery Coffee to volunteer. They are planning on hiring and paying someone to clean the bathrooms. The board will take the request under advisement and a decision will be made at the next DDA meeting. Sean left at 8:21

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2022:** Rick made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mike supported. **The motion passed.**

**Approval of Bill for Payment:**

a. HTC	Phone land line	\$40.16
b. Kathy Reynolds	Cell phone data pkg.	\$50.00
c. The Mining Journal	Ad: Banner contest 499.50	\$1,793.22
	Plan amendment: Public meeting ads 1,293.72	
d. Embers Credit Union	Plan amendment: Postage	\$247.16
e. GMBPCD	Plumbing repair (50/50) 386.53	\$436.53
	Microsoft Office subscription (50/50) 50.00	
f. Coleman Engineering	Survey & Design: Superior St Project	\$581.00
g. Imperial Electric	Streetlight repairs Inv 2745	\$202.50

Travis made a motion to pay the bills as presented, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

**Budget:**

**a. February 2022 financials:** The board received the February 2022 financial reports. Kathy said we will need to make budget adjustments before the fiscal year end. No action is needed or taken.

**Old Business:**

**a. DDA Plan Amendment:** Kathy reported that the DDA Citizens Council met and passed the resolution to approve recommending the plan amendment to the City Commission for final approval. City Commission approval should be later this month and then the resolution and plan need to be published to complete the process. The plan amendment needs to be completed before we can begin the bonding process. Kathy discussed the City and County millages that the DDA TIF captures. In 2018 Governor Snyder approved allowing libraries to opt out for DDA TIF capture and the Munising Public Library wanted to opt out of the DDA collecting the library millage at that time. As the DDA was not renewing the plan amendment at time and had debt, they could not opt then. They are now wanting to opt out and have 60 days from when the plan amendment is approved to request to do so. The DDA currently captures about \$3,900 annually from the library millage. The library must file the paperwork and it will be at their expense.

**b. Superior Street Paving Bond:** Dale asked Kathy to get a timeline from Devin for the bonding process.

**c. Event Fund Request: Pictured Rocks Days** – The GMBPCD requested funding of \$500 for Pictured Rocks Days in June 2022. Travis made a motion to approve funding of \$500 to the GMBPCD for Pictured Rocks Days, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

**New Business:**

**a. Park bench:** Kathy discussed a memorial park bench that was ordered for the park and is the wrong bench. It doesn't match with the other benches. A new one needs to be ordered and the city inquired if we could cover the cost. Kathy will talk with Devin and get more information. No action is taken.

**b. Military murals:** Kathy showed the board 5 murals we have had designed to honor the military branches. She wants to install them near the Vets Memorial in Binsfeld Bayshore Park. The City Commission needs to approve it. She would like some funding from the DDA and will also be requesting funding from the Munising Visitors Bureau. Kathy will have costs next month.

**Other Business:** None

**Executive Director's Update:** Kathy reported on a committee she is on to decide how the funds the city receives from the American Rescue Plan will be spent. The city will be sending out a survey with the water bills. Johanna Bogater is chair with Kathy, Brice Burge, and a few others on the committee. It is hoped that in about 6 months the city should be certified as a Redevelopment Ready Community. This will help with some grant and funding opportunities. Kathy said she has been attending many local and regional meetings. The GMBPCD is looking at hosting their Annual Dinner at the Bear Trip the first week in May, probably on Tuesday May 3. Kathy said one business has inquired about a façade grant. Façade grants will be on the agenda for next month for discussion.

**City Manager's Report:** Mike Nettleton said the bond for the Superior Street project will on the agenda for the next City Commission meeting. Kathy reported that she did attend the DDA Plan Amendment public meeting at City Hall on March 2. She said there were a couple of questions at the meeting with people wanting clarification.

**Round table:** Regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July requests, we have given \$2,000-\$2,500 in one year to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in the past. Brice Burge discussed the new newspaper, Munising Beacon, that he is working on with the Newberry News. It is currently online only but is planned to be a print paper. Dale asked about the Renovare Development projects. Travis said he went to the public meeting they held, and they discussed their intentions with the property across from Mazzali regarding the housing issue in town. Kathy said they will need to talk with the DDA, the City and Alger County Brownfield Authority regarding Brownfield, along with other city committees on other items. They did attend the last city commission meeting for an informal presentation. Dale said that PSB is still looking at expanding their building on Superior. Dale asked Kathy to get a timeline for the bond project and email the board before the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** Rick made a motion to adjourn at 9:25, Mike supported. **The motion passed.**

**Next meeting:** April 20, 2022