

Munising Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes of Meeting  
November 10, 2021  
Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center, 8am

**Members Present:** Dale Immel, Mike Nettleton, Pat Gariepy, Travis Cross, Tom Hall, Debbie Nedeau arrived at 8:02, Rick Bowerman arrived at 8:02, Cori Cearley arrived at 8:03

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Jaymie Depew, Devin Olson, Brice Burge

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dale at 8:00 am.

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

**Public Comment:**

**a. Munising Bay Cruisers Funding Request for Car Show – Chris Case:** The board received the request for \$2,000 in funding for the September 2022 car show and the survey results. In 2021 the event was moved to a new location on Neenah Paper property west of the mill. Chris discussed the last show in September 2021 and reported that there were approximately 140 cars registered. He said the \$7,500 cost covers advertising, prizes and awards, door prizes for participants, and donations to the Vets and Wounded Warriors. It's basically a breakeven event. They will be installing a permanent sign/banner on the property to advertise year-round. Many local businesses donate (mostly door prizes) and the Munising Visitors Bureau and Grand Marais also donate. Cori said the MVB gave \$4,000 for the 2021 show. There is also a registration fee. The board will take the request under advisement and a decision will be made at the next DDA board meeting.

**b. Munising Bay Cruisers Request for Aesthetic Improvements:** The board received paperwork and Chris Case discussed a request for aesthetic improvements to be done on city owned property adjacent to the Neenah sight (next to Big C). Devin said a couple of hours of loader work by the city crew could be possible in spring 2022; the city currently has no plans for the property. Chris said Neenah Paper has been mowing other adjacent areas the car show group has improved. Devin will work with the group on the site improvements.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 20, 2021:** Rick questioned the possibility of a crosswalk going in at Maple and M28. Kathy and Devin said it's not totally been denied by MDOT, and they will continue to pursue the crosswalk. The DDA is also still considering extending the sidewalk from Maple to the roundabout on the north side of M28. Rick made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Travis supported. **The motion passed.**

**Approval of Bills for Payment:**

a. HTC	Phone land line	\$40.27
b. Kathy Reynolds	Cell phone data pkg.	\$50.00
c. Madigan's Ace Hardware	Supplies for holiday decorations	\$21.98

Cori made a motion to pay the bills as presented, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

**Budget:**

**a. October 2021 financials:** The board received the October 2021 financial reports. Kathy reported that everything still looks good and noted that the budget adjustments that were approved by the DDA have not been made yet but should show up on the November reports.

**Old Business:**

**a. Superior Street Paving – Possible Bond:** Kathy and Devin met with the bond attorney, Steve Mann, and he laid out the timeframe, etc. for bonding for the Superior St. project. The project is not currently on the DDA 20-year goals. We need to update the DDA plan and goals and will work with Steve Mann in that regard. Dale said the only debt the DDA currently has is the final year of the DDA sidewalk bond. There are multiple options for bonding for the Superior St project. The DDA members will all need to come up with items for 20-year goals for the December meeting. The DDA will still plan on the Superior St project and the DDA Plan amendment and

timing will be hand in hand. Bonding will be as close to the project date as possible. Cori made a motion to spend up to \$3,000, if needed, with Steve Mann to assist with the DDA plan amendment, Mike supported. **The motion passed.**

**b. Event Funding-Rekindle the Spirit:** The GMBP has requested \$500 in funding for Rekindle the Spirit. Travis made a motion to approve the \$500 in funding for the GMBPCD, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

**c. Recycling Committee Update:** Cori said there is currently not much to report. Some people are doing a tour of the Recycle 906 facility. The Wood Island Landfill has changed hands and the future of recycling there is unknown at this time.

**New Business:** None

**Other Business:** Brice Burge remarked that the DDA has business incubator on its 20-year goals, and he discussed it at the last meeting. He said he is available for a conversation about his ideas if anyone's interested.

**Executive Director's Update/Partnership Update:** Kathy said we are working on plans for Rekindle and trying to confirm a few things. We will be putting together gift bags for kids and PSB is doing their drive-thru Santa on December 2. We will again be giving away gift certificates for local businesses on a random basis. Kathy will be meeting with MEDC in Munising to look at a couple of possible projects. Kathy said there are State CRP funds that may be available for placemaking and community revitalization projects. Kathy said that with MEDC CDBG funds used for rental rehab a percentage of the housing needs to be HUD affordable housing. Kathy is inquiring about possible funding through the MEDC CRP funds and state funds to use for boarding house type housing for seasonal employees, long-term affordable housing and possibly incorporating commercial space. Kathy said we need affordable long-term housing, but there is also a real need for short-term housing for seasonal employees. Cori and Kathy reminded everyone of State Bill 4722 that would remove all zoning restrictions for vacation rentals.

**City Manager's Report:** Devin discussed the LMI resurvey that we have been working on. The surveys were ready to go, and the state has nixed the ability to move forward. There is a meeting today with MEDC to get more information and see if we can get a reprieve and go ahead with the mailing. The DDA had approved funding to be spent with CUPPAD awhile back and we may have to cover some costs. Devin said the M28 project is wrapping up for the year and Coleman Engineering has been in town taking core samples of Superior St and the side streets for that project.

**Round table:** None

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

**Next meeting:** December 15, 2021