

Munising Downtown Development Authority  
Minutes of Meeting  
December 15, 2021  
Fuzzy Boyak Welcome Center, 8am

**Members Present:** Dale Immel, Pat Gariepy, Travis Cross, Tom Hall, Debbie Nedeau, Cori Cearley

**Members Absent:** Rick Bowerman (e), Mike Nettleton (u)

**Others Present:** Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Jaymie Depew

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Dale at 8:02 am.

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2021:** Cori made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Debbie 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. ALTRAN	Annual Contribution for Superior St Station	\$2,154.53
d. Driftwood Deli	Business Decorating Contest 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$250.00
e. South Bay Outfitters	Business Decorating Contest 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$150.00
f. Superior One-O-Five	Business Decorating Contest 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$100.00
g. Coleman Engineering	Survey & Design: Superior St Project	\$8,566.00
h. Denman's Hardware	Zip ties for hanging Christmas decorations	\$60.96

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

**Budget:**

**a. November 2021 financials:** The board received the November 2021 financial reports. Kathy reported that the previously approved adjustments are now reflected on the cover sheet. No action is needed or taken.

**Old Business:**

**a. Superior Street Paving Bond:** No action needed or taken.

**b. DDA Plan Amendment/Approval of 20-year Project List Goals:** The board received a list of DDA project/goals for the plan amendment. Kathy explained that operating expenses and previous bonds will be listed separately, not on the goal sheet. Kathy will work with Steve Mann on the details. Travis asked to confirm that it represents about \$7.2 million over 20 years and we cannot estimate overspending our income. Dale affirmed that to be correct and added that our income has and should continue to increase. Travis added that he agrees with spending on aesthetics and beautification to attract and maintain visitors. He discussed some of the properties and issues he would like to see improved in and around town. Kathy reminded the board that we are limited to spending funds only within the DDA district and cannot improve private property. Many of the items Travis discussed have been discussed in the past and could possibly be helped by the funds currently proposed. Kathy said the Treasury Department has tightened regulations as DDAs utilize public funds and some county governments are trying to eliminate or limit their DDAs in different communities. Travis made a motion to approve the DDA Project/Goals list as presented, Pat supported. **The motion passed.**

**c. Event Funding Request: Munising Bay Cruisers Car Show, Sept 2022:** Munising Bay Cruisers has requested funding of \$2,000. After much discussion, Pat made a motion to approve \$500 in funding, Travis supported. **The motion passed.**

**d. Recycling Committee Update:** Cori said there is currently not much to report. With GAD being sold to GFL, they are waiting to hear what can happen going forward.

**New Business:** None

**Other Business:** Kathy and Devin had a discussion with Steve Mann, the lawyer, regarding the façade grant program. Kathy will do more research before the next budget needs to be proposed so the board can decide if they want to continue with the façade grant program.

**Executive Director's Update/Partnership Update:** Kathy, Julie and Devin are working on the DDA revenue and what the maximum amount the DDA can do in bonding regarding the new DDA plan. She said there will be a rough draft of the plan by the next meeting and then we can move on to public meetings. Rekindle the Spirit is moving along with Santa and Mrs. Claus giving out gift certificates to those spending locally. Kathy is on a committee regarding the local American Rescue funds for the City. The county has hired a consulting firm. They will also be surveying the community for ideas. Lack of childcare continues to be a big issue in the community. MARESA is working a program to help fund childcare expenses with the state, the employer, and the employee each paying 1/3 of the cost. Cori said that APRD is working with MARESA to put in a licensed childcare at APRD. Kathy stated the need for senior programming and possibly another senior center in Munising and Cori said they can investigate establishing programming, etc. at APRD. Kathy said the final tourism numbers from PRNL for 2021 are not available yet, but September and October 2021 were both down from 2020, but higher than 2019.

**City Manager's Report:** None

**Round table:** Travis said he attended a meeting of the Marquette Economic Club with Dave Lorenz as the speaker. He had a very positive outlook and stated that state tourism was down this year, but the UP was up.

**Adjournment:** Pat made a motion to adjourn at 9:21, Cori supported. **The motion passed.**

**Next meeting:** January 19, 2022