

Munising Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of Meeting
August 19, 2020
Video Conference on Zoom due to Covid-19 Pandemic

Members Present: Dale Immel, Rod DesJardins, Travis Cross, Rick Bowerman, Pat Gariepy, Debbie Nedeau

Members Absent: Tom Hall (e), Cori Cearley (e), Jackie Reynolds (u)

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dale at 8:00 a.m.

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

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes for July 15, 2020: Travis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

Approval of Bills for Payment:

a. HTC	Phone Land Line	\$40.20
b. Kathy Reynolds	Cell Phone Data Pkg.	\$50.00
c. Madigan's Ace Hardware	Mulch & Gardening Supplies	\$118.73
d. Munising News	Sponsor Ad: 4 th of July Safety 35.00 Ad: Harley Apt Grant 92.40 Ads: Façade Grants 147.00	\$274.40
e. Lady Killers Pest Control	Weed Spraying	\$1,066.67
f. 41 Lumber	Posts for signs at Bayshore Park	\$257.73
g. UP Fabricating	Repair & Painting Newspaper Box	\$431.00
h. Mining Journal	Ad: Things to Do (50/50)	\$212.50
i. Embers Credit Union Visa	Postage 70.00 Signs for Bayshore Park 243.60 (A/R)	\$313.60
j. Dog Waste Depot	Dog Waste Station (A/R)	\$139.38

The board asked if the new signs re: No camping at Bayshore Park have cut down or eliminated the issue. Devin said that with the signs in place there has been increased policing and allowed for enforcement of the ordinance.

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

Budget:

a. July financials: The board received the July 2020 financial reports. No action was needed or taken.

Old Business:

a. Event Funding Request: Alger Parks & Rec Concerts in the Park: APRD requested \$500 in funding for the summer concert series. Rod made a motion to approve \$500 in funding to Alger Parks & Rec for Concerts in the Park, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

b. Event Funding Request: Munising Car Show: The Munising Bay Cruisers requested \$500 in funding for the car show in September. Travis made a motion to approve \$500 in funding to Munising Bay Cruisers for the Munising Car Show in September, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

c. 2020/2021 Façade Grants: The board received façade grant requests from seven (7) businesses. After reviewing, Pat made a motion to approve \$15,535.70 in grants as follows for the applications that are complete, Debbie supported. **The motion passed.**

Wetmore Properties/Harley Apartments	North/front	up to \$2,500.00
Wetmore Properties/Harley Apartment	West	up to \$2,500.00
HealthQuest of Alger County	South/front	up to \$1,278.72
Lynn Auto – Napa (415 E M28)	South/front	up to \$2,500.00
Open Wings Pottery	North	up to \$1,000.00
Open Wings Pottery	South/front	up to \$675.00
Open Wings Pottery	West	up to \$675.00
Pictured Rocks Inn & Suites	North/front	up to \$2,500.00
Wayne’s Water	West/front	up to \$1,564.16
Wayne’s Water *	South	up to \$342.82
Das Gift Haus *	North/front	\$0.00

*If Wayne’s Water turns in an estimate by September 9 for labor on the South facade, the board will take another look at the application for the South facade. Otherwise, they will only be eligible for \$342.82 which is 50% of materials. Das Gift Haus was also unable to turn in an estimate for labor. If they turn in an estimate by September 9, the board will consider it. As of today, Das Gift Haus is not approved for any façade grant funding.

New Business:

a. Lighting on Veterans Drive: Kathy discussed possibly putting light poles on Veterans Drive in Bayshore Park. They would be the same historical poles as the rest of downtown. She has some rough numbers from Matt at UPEA. They would be staggered on both sides of the road, so a few would need to be placed on Pictured Rocks Cruises property on the south side of the road. Devin thinks 6-8 or 9 would be needed for the length of the road and the corners of Maple and Elm. He also said the electrical panel that was installed during the marina expansion could handle the extra lines. Rick asked about snow removal and whether the piling of snow on the sides of the road would cause issues. Devin said the snow should not be an issue with the new light poles; they are designed better for the weather than the older poles. Kathy will pursue the project and get some firm numbers.

b. New DDA COVID-19 Grant Program: Kathy discussed an idea to offer a grant opportunity to DDA businesses (similar to the MEDC Match on Main grants) this fall or early winter. It will greatly depend on what happens with the COVID-19 pandemic and what the DDA budget looks like. The idea will be revisited in fall/early winter.

Executive Director’s Update/Partnership Update: Kathy discussed the Michigan Restart Grants being offered by MEDC. We had 55 applicants from Alger County and a budget of \$133,863. The funds for the UP were divided up by county based on population from the 2010 census. The GMBPCD reviewed Alger County applications based in criteria from the MEDC, the granting body. Pat Sanderson and Jaymie gave updates on happenings at the office. Jaymie discussed an article and blog post she wrote regarding working remotely. Kathy said she attends many meetings with other organizations across the UP and she is hearing that most areas are down this year, it seems that Mackinac Island and Munising are some of the few areas showing increases. PRNL reported record numbers for July after being down substantially in June. The park is experiencing many issues with vandalism and such. COVID-19 testing has increased and many asymptomatic cases are being reported. We

have begun considering Rekindle the Spirit for 2020 and it looks like most of it will have to be virtual. Entry for the Grand Giveaway will likely be done online.

City Manager's Report: Devin reported that the M28 road construction project is staying on track, even with the rainy weather we have experienced. The road crews have reported lower traffic counts in the last 3-5 days. The City is looking at refinancing some existing bonds to take advantage of the current low interest rates. The LMI survey is moving forward as well as the recreational marijuana ordinance. Paving on Sand Point Road has been delayed due to heavy traffic, but should begin next week.

Round Table Discussion: Debbie said she has been contacted by the district manager at Family Dollar. They are wanting the City or DDA to help with costs for snow removal in their parking lot due to it being utilized by ALTRAN as a pickup site and ALTRAN customers parking there. It is agreed that they should be told to contact ALTRAN. Rod said Pictured Rocks Cruises has donated a boat to take the developers from Renovare and a group of interested parties out tomorrow afternoon where they will be discussing the Munising Marketplace Development (the old fire hall development). Rod said there have been changes to the original design plan to reflect the nature and design of Munising's downtown. The board agrees to keep the DDA meetings to once per month at this time.

Adjournment: Debbie made a motion to adjourn at 9:15, Rick supported. **The motion passed.**

Next meeting: September 16, 2020