

Munising Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of Meeting
September 19, 2018

Members Present: Dale Immel, Rod DesJardins, Travis Cross, Tom Hall, Debbie Nedeau, Rick Bowerman, Donna Grahovac, Jackie Reynolds

Members Absent: Pat Gariepy (e)

Others Present: Kathy Reynolds, Pat Sanderson, Devin Olson

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

Approval of Agenda: Rod made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Travis seconded. **The motion passed.**

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 5, 2018: Travis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Tom seconded. **The motion passed.**

Budget:

a. August 2018 Financials:

Old Business:

a. MEDC Update: Kathy discussed the MEDC Façade Grant funds that she applied for and was denied. Kathy requested more information re: scoring and has had discussions with MEDC personnel re: the request for information/application and the actual scoring. There were 60 applicants total and only 3 communities were awarded the funding. Kathy was told it was a “pilot program” and not all funds allocated were awarded; there could be more funds available in the next couple of years. Rod would like to draft a letter with questions and concerns about the process from the City Commission and request more information about the application, scoring criteria, etc. He would state that the information would be used to hopefully apply for future funding and improve Munising’s chances of securing funds going forward. The board agreed that this is how they would like to proceed. Rod will draft a letter and the board will review it at the next meeting before it goes to the City Commission.

Approval of Bills for Payment:

a. Madigan’s Hardware	Mower & Gas Can 282.98 Art in the Alley: Spray Paint 3.00 Nuts & Bolts 6.88	\$292.86
b. Peoples State Bank	Bond Principal 35,000.00 Bond Interest 1,912.35	\$36,912.35
c. TDS Media Direct	AmericInn Directory Ad (50/50)	\$150.00
d. UMCCU Visa	Gas for Mower 18.92 Art in the Alley: Supplies 26.32	\$45.24

Rick made a motion to approve the bills for payment, Rod seconded. **The motion passed.**

New Business: Dale discussed the possibility of the board only meeting once a month for the winter. He stated that since we are not currently working on any projects that need input he is just wondering how the board feels. Travis discussed the importance of the DDA board and the need to keep moving forward with potential projects. Kathy and Dale will put together some budget numbers and a list of possible projects for the next meeting and the board will decide about future meetings after reviewing them.

Other Business: None

Executive Director's Update/Partnership Update: Kathy discussed the UP Art Alliance (of which she sits on the board). As part of a grant requirement they received she is attending many meetings in the region. She also discussed how "Placemaking" is often a topic of discussion at many state and federal meetings. She attended a meeting at Neenah Paper with MEDC rep Vicki Schwab. The mill is adding about 20 jobs to help alleviate some overtime issues. Michigan Works and possibly MEDC will help with training programs. They also visited VanLandschoots. Kathy secured some funding from UPCDC to help pay for the Walk Bike Places Conference that Ben is currently attending in New Orleans. He will also be attending meetings in Kalamazoo and Battle Creek later this month. The art project in Grand Marais (part of the Art Place Grant) is moving forward. Kathy also secured some funding from UPCDC for Munising Middle School Robotics.

City Manager's Report: Devin reported that he and Kathy are having their first meeting today with MDOT and local law enforcement re: the 2020 M28 road project. They hope to have a better idea of a timeline soon. The City Commission approved hiring UPEA as the engineers for the 2020 water/sewer project. There will be a ribbon cutting today at 2pm for the Munising Mountain Bike Trailhead. The City is also working with DEQ re: a recycled scrap tire road asphalt grant, due to the current high price of asphalt.

Round Table: None

Adjournment: Rick made a motion, Debbie seconded to adjourn at 8:59am. **The motion passed.**

Next meeting: **October 3, 2018**