

**DDA
DDA Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2022 Regular Meeting
City Hall Chambers
8:00 AM**

Members Present: Derby Chase, Jay Bostwick, Linda Norlander, Kyle Closs, Mayor Thompson, Mike Williams, Linda Howlett

Members Absent: Marcey Skwor, Robert LeDuc

Vacancies - 2

Other Staff Present: Ron Miaso, Renée Barron, Erick Buckman

Guests / Public: None

Meeting was brought to order by Jay Bostwick at 8:02

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. Roll Call was noted**

- II. Amendments to Agenda**

None

- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

- IV. APPROVE MINUTES – April 19, 2022**

Motion by Derby Chase; seconded by Mike Williams to approve the DDA Regular Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2022.

*****MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*****

V. PUBLIC HEARING:

None

VI. BUDGET:

a. Year to Date as of April 30, 2022.

Ron Miaso gave an overview of the activity for the first month of the fiscal year. The only revenue was for five vendor payments from the Farmers Market. Minimal expenses were recorded for the month such as IT charges from the City, Farmers Market Manager salary and Market payroll liabilities.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. North Shore Update

Renée Barron reported that there was no activity on the project and that a meeting should be scheduled to review next steps.

b. RRC 2.0

Ron Miaso reported that he is working with the new temporary RRC 2.0 lead at MEDC to review with him the progress made so far on the project.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. DDA Board Applications

Ron Miaso reported that there were three applications for the two vacant DDA Board positions and thank the applicants for their desire to serve. He also indicated that City Clerk Kim Berry will keep on file any applications for future Board openings. The Board discussed all three candidates and thanked them for applying.

Motion by Derby Chase; seconded by Linda Norlander to appoint Taylor Miller and Jason Lippens to the DDA Board.

*****MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*****

b. Sidewalk Deterioration – Farmers Market

Ron Miaso discussed the deterioration of many of the bricks in front of the Farmers Market. He discussed with Barry Lund of DPW who indicated that he will be able to apply a temporary fix to ensure pedestrian safety and will develop a more detailed plan for a permanent solution to go into the next fiscal year’s budget. The Board discussed going to a normal concrete sidewalk to eliminate the brick issues so common in the UP. This is similar to what the DDA did when the bricks were removed from the 9th and Delta Avenue intersection as part of the 9th Street project.

c. DDA Board Attendance

Renée Barron gave an overview of the Personnel Committee discussion which included altering the by-laws to specify a change that could include removing Board Members for missing three meetings in a row or four in total for a year.

Renée Barron was asked to check with the City Clerk on any regulations regarding attendance on an Advisory Board like the DDA.

Motion by Derby Chase; seconded by Linda Norlander to table the discussion until a survey is completed on day and time combinations most preferred by the Board.

*****MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*****

IX. COMMENTS

a. City Manager

City Manager Eric Buckman reported that he has been working on the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements and that the Bond will be approximately \$18 million dollars.

He also reported that the Irish Oaks owner wants to get out of the agreement at the golf course and that the City has requested a review by an attorney,

Finally, City Manager Buckman discussed the North Bluff paving projects and the assessment strategy including citizen review of the four separate paving portions.

Renée Barron added comments from the City which included Fas Tax building being sold to A-1 Septic, the Pharmacy next to the Farmers Market was sold for a tobacco store, the Great Lakes First Federal Credit Union adding another drive through, and added drive through lane at McDonalds.

b. DDA/EDC Coordinator

Ron Miaso discussed the Transitions Assisted Living Open House at the old OSF building on Michigan Avenue. Significant improvements have been made in the district and this will be a first-class facility. Ron talked about potential DDA assistance on Facades at the location and suggested DATA Transit potential.

c. DDA Board Members

Linda Howlett said that the Gladstone School Budget still has COVID funding and currently has a strong Fund Balance. She also reported that there will be a Bond Issue on the August ballot which will not raise the millage but extend the timeline.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Derby Chase; seconded by Linda Howlett to adjourn.

*****MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*****

The DDA adjourned at 9:09 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ron Miaso, DDA / EDC Coordinator