

Downtown Development Authority

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2016
6:30 p.m.

Present were: Groves, Carr, Johnson, Honea, Peterson, Soderstrom, and Harrett

Absent were: Mainprize, Blessing

Staff Present: Jean-Buhrer, Waterworth

Others: Jet Kilmer, Paula Smith

The following items were discussed:

1. The meeting was called to order by Groves at 6:35 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Jet Kilmer, President of the Chamber of Commerce spoke to thank the DDA for the support during previous years Family Fun Fest. Pride is taken in making sure the festival is clean and sponsors donate water to pass out to ensure everyone stays hydrated. Kilmer advised the DDA and sponsors will be recognized in the Newsletter, website landing page, Facebook, and The View. This year marks the 10th year of the Family Fun Fest. She would like to have a DDA Logo to include in future advertisements. Friday will be Special Needs Day at the festival from 11 am - 1 pm with 40 kids expected. Lunch will be provided by McDonalds, and rides will be open free of charge. Volunteers who would like to help need to be there by 10:30.

The Fireworks display will be on Friday evening, with cost expected around \$4,200. Over 17,000 people enjoyed the display last year. The Chamber would like the DDA to consider donating \$750 again this year.

The motion was made to recommend approval of Friends of Fireworks Sponsorship in the amount of \$750.00 this year by Honea, supported by Carr. All approved by verbal vote. Motion carried.

Kilmer also discussed advertising opportunities on the Chamber's 2016 - 2019 Community map. A standard ad on the map cost \$595 and she suggest it could be shared with the City. The maps have approximate (3) year life span with

7,000 maps printed and distributed. Kilmer suggested coming up with a logo specific to the DDA.

The motion was made to bring to council the option to share an ad on the Chamber of Commerce 2016 - 2019 Community Map and equally share the \$595 cost with the City by Soderstrom, supported by Carr. All approved by verbal vote. Motion Carried.

Kilmer also brought up the idea of “No Dogs Allowed” at the Funfest and Farmers Market or at a minimum on a leash and muzzled. This request is due to an incident at the Farmers Market with a younger child holding the leash of a large puppy and not being in control of the puppy. Harrett brought up the importance of educating dog owners of etiquette and not banning or instituting mandatory muzzles. Jean-Buhrer suggested dog etiquette cards being passed out by volunteers to help educate dog owners of rules when taking dogs to public events. Due to many entrances it would be difficult to prevent people from bringing dogs in.

3. Approval of May 4, 2016 meeting minutes.

The motion was made to recommend approval of the May 4, 2016 meeting minutes by Carr, supported by Peterson. All approved by verbal vote. Motion carried.

4. FY 2016 Brownfield and DDA Financial Reports

Jean-Buhrer reviewed and provided details of the Brownfield and DDA Financial Reports.

5. Tuesday Tunes on the Musical Mile Discussion

Jean-Buhrer provided updates and advised we have 14 participants signed up at this time. There will be an ad placed in The View and also on Facebook page. Musicians are still needed and she will continue to work with the band instructor at the high school. The banner has been ordered from Signs Now in Waterford and includes changeable date feature for only \$60 to replace the date each year. The colorful banner design will include music notes and “Stroll through Downtown”.

6. Master Plan Update

Jean-Buhrer advised there will be a joint meeting with DDA in the fall, concerts in the park and Farmers Market. Updates to the Master Plan should be completed by 1/1/17.

7. New Project or Idea(s)

- a. Façade improvement and discussion - No discussion
- b. Business Recruitment and Retention Discussion - Jean-Buhrer advised she is continuing to work on introducing herself to the community. Question by Peterson on what role the DDA has when developer is out of town on what we would like to see developed. Jean-Buhrer advised we cannot dictate what goes in but strive to develop relationship and try to get community support. Soderstrom added to direct new developers to vacant properties.
- c. Property Update and Discussion -
 - I. 11410 S. Saginaw Street -Closed
 - II. Reid Road Apartments - City Attorney Walter Griffin is working with owners to finalize PUD.
 - III. 11350 and 11346 S Saginaw Street -Remove from list, project fell through.
 - IV. 11236 S. Saginaw Street - Dollar Tree is scheduled to open on June 30th. Landscaping has been added, old pole is still there and needs to be removed. T-Mobile will occupy one of the retail sites the other site is still trying to be filled.
 - V. City Vacant Property - Receive inquiries every day.
- d. Redevelopment Liquor Licenses Discussion - Cheaper to purchase on escrow market, fall back on DDA to get on license.
- e. Main Street Discussion- Not much movement. Logo development for DDA may be available.
- f. Flower Discussion - Jean-Buhrer advised that Lou Blessing has offered to purchase (6) baskets for Davis and Saginaw Street if the DDA agrees to purchase flowers. Cost per basket to fill with flowers is approximately \$30 each.

Jean-Buhrer advised the need of a watering tool in order to keep flowers blooming. The specialized tool would be carried in the bed of a DPW truck and someone would be able to use the hose to fill each reservoir every (3) weeks the cost for the tool is \$687.

The motion was made for Lou Blessing to purchase (6) flower pots and the DDA to purchase flowers and a specialized watering tool with the total cost not to exceed \$900.00 by Honea, supported by Harrett. All approved by verbal vote. Motion Carried.

Discussion: Grand Blanc Outdoors should be first business to contact to purchase watering tool from to buy local for any warranty work that may be needed.

8. **Miscellaneous**

Other business: Soderstrom advised a fountain has been purchased for the park near Aubrey's. The fountain is 5 ½ feet tall with a 4 foot base and will have plants around it. Adding the fountain should be a nice addition to the park.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dianne M Waterworth
Acting Recording Secretary
Downtown Development
Authority
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