

Downtown Development Authority Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Informational Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Present: Kevin Groves, Chris Carr, Susan Soderstrom, Dan Harrett, Suzanne Johnson, Terry Stanfill, Scott Smith

Absent: Debbie Honea, Chad Reid

Staff: Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Christina Irwin

Others: Carmine Avantini, Larry Gawthrop

The following items were discussed:

1. The meeting was called to order by Groves at 6:30 p.m.
2. Public Comment -
Larry Gawthrop, CFO from Mott Community College, presented a packet with Mott Community College information for the board.
3. Events Update
 - a. Concerts in the Park -
Irwin presented details from the sponsorship of Concerts in the Park, renamed and relocated this year to Grand Blanc High School due to the construction in Physicians Park for the Splash Pad/Ice Rink.
 - b. Farmers Market
Irwin presented details from the Farmers Market. She indicated many people are strolling through the market and Chalet Shoppes on Sundays. There is a lot of excitement and walkability downtown.
 - c. Grand Blanc Chamber Fireworks Sponsor
Irwin stated the event was successful and brought many people to the downtown area.
4. New Project or Idea(s) -
Jean-Buhrer discussed the need for the informational meeting.
 - a. Façade Improvement Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated the DDA does provide a loan program with a \$5,000.00 match available.

- b. Business Recruitment and Retention Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated there is contact made to the local businesses for downtown events.
 - c. Property Update Discussion
 - i. 11410 S. Saginaw Street (Old Marathon Station) - Jean-Buhrer stated there is a Purchase Agreement on the property, hoping for a Site Plan soon.
 - ii. 11450 Grand Boulevard - Jean-Buhrer stated the new building is beautiful.
 - iii. 11415 Davis Street - Jean-Buhrer stated there is some interest on this property.
 - iv. 227 and 235 E. Grand Blanc Road - Jean-Buhrer stated this is the site for Italia Gardens.
 - v. Chalet Park - 131 E. Grand Blanc Road - Jean-Buhrer stated this was covered previously.
 - vi. Other City vacant property - Jean-Buhrer stated there are still some large pieces of property available with some interest, but no offers right now.
 - d. Redevelopment Liquor Licenses Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated there is a license available but it might be more economical to purchase from the LARA State website.
 - e. Flower Basket Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated the baskets along Saginaw Street and Grand Blanc Road with an investment from the DDA of \$5,000.00.
 - f. Parking in the Downtown Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated there should be another study conducted.
 - g. DDA District Boundary Features Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated the City is always looking at the features including benches, bike paths and others.
 - h. Economic Development Committee Discussion - Jean-Buhrer stated the City keeps the discussion flowing and meeting with individuals as they come forward.
5. Miscellaneous -
There was significant discussion regarding the new Splash Pad/Ice Rink currently under construction. DDA recommended to think and make policy regarding hockey utilizing the ice rink.
Discussion regarding adding more flower baskets to Grand Boulevard.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Irwin
Acting Recording Secretary
Downtown Development
Authority