



8:00AM Wednesday, Nov 2, 2022
City Hall Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Todd Craft at 8:02pm.

1. Roll Call

Present: Chris Halas, Linda Deskins, Tom Pascaris, Tom Buck, Todd Craft, Sara Bowman (8:04), Claire Perkins (8:04), Don Singleton (8:10)

Absent: Miguel Williams

Others Present: Ryan Kavanagh (Heights Brewing), Jess Westendorf, Kate Knight

2. Approval of Items on Consent Agenda

a. Minutes: October 5, 2022 Regular Meeting

b. Minutes: September 27, 2022 DDA Design Committee

c. Minutes: September 9, 2022 DDA Business Development Committee

Motion by Halas, Second by Pascaris to approve the items on the consent agenda.

3. Approval of Regular Agenda

Motion by Pascaris, Second by Buck to approve the items on the regular agenda.

4. Public Comment

Opened and closed by Craft at 8:03am.

5. Quarterly Financial Report

Overview by Knight.

6. Executive Director Update

Visit from Governor Whitmer along with County Commissioner William Miller. Worked with constituency advocate team, advocated for transfer of the liquor license at Cheese Lady to achieve prompt resolution on process delay.

County Executive Dave Coulter planning in Downtown Farmington for Small Business Saturday, Shop Local November, tentatively November 21.

Streetscape Update- National concrete shortage. Due to MDOT federal grant regulation must be poured in large batches; we are competing with other larger MDOT projects. Median trees, sidewalk and pavers on east side mid-November. By Thanksgiving it should be open, but west side sidewalks may not be complete until Spring.

On to Small Business Saturday, Ladies Night Out, Yiftee gift cards, kicking off fourth quarter shopping season with strong retailing report, detailed in Crain's Detroit.

7. Consideration to Approve Façade Improvement Grant to Heights Brewing

\$199K overall cost for façade improvement. Requesting for full \$20K.

Board discussed design details and eligibility.

Motion by Buck, second by Donovan, that the DDA Board move to approve the façade incentive application 01-22, received from Ryan Kavanaugh, for the property located at 23621 Farmington Rd, in the amount not to exceed \$20,000 allocated from 248-000.00-990.000 Capital Outlay.

Motion Passes unanimously via roll call.

Ayes: 8 Singleton, Pascaris, Bowman, Halas, Craft, Buck, Deskins, Perko.

Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Williams

8. Consideration to Approve Sign Incentive Grant to Heights Brewing

\$21K overall cost for signage the maximum \$600. DDA Design Committee recommends Board considers increasing the maximum funding allowed for a sign incentive grant to \$4,000.

Board discussed extensively. Consensus that the sign incentive grant program should be updated programmatically. The \$600 limit is not enough in the current environment.

Motion by Halas, seconded by Singleton, that the DDA Board move to approve the sign incentive application #01-22, received from Ryan Kavanaugh, for the property located at 23621 Farmington Road, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000, funds to be derived from DDA fund balance.

Suggested reviewing the motion by Buck, to adjust program amount limit from \$600 to \$4000 immediately.

Previous motion and second withdrawn by Halas and Singleton respectively.

Motion by Buck, second by Halas, to raise the limit of the DDA sign incentive grant program from \$600 to \$4,000 immediately for the purpose of this program and that we have a review of the program budgeting recommendations of the program by Design Committee and Business Development Committee.

Ayes: 8 Singleton, Pascaris, Bowman, Halas, Craft, Buck, Deskins, Perko.
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Williams

Motion by Halas, seconded by Singleton, that the DDA Board move to approve the sign incentive application #01-22, received from Ryan Kavanaugh, for the property located at 23621 Farmington Road, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000, funds to be derived from DDA fund balance.

Ayes: 8 Singleton, Pascaris, Bowman, Halas, Craft, Buck, Deskins, Perko.
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Williams

9. Committee Updates:

a. Design Committee

Heights Brewing review

b. Organization Committee

No current updates

c. Public Art Committee

No updates

d. Promotions Committee

In final production of final reels and in line for SEMCOG video featuring Downtowns.

e. Business Development Committee

Committee is working on two one-pagers for placer AI, one for current businesses and one to attract new businesses.

10. Other Business

None

11. Board Comment

Buck: Thank you for bearing with me on my need to be programmatic, I think I provides a better guide to the board, knowing the limits and operating within limits is important.

Buck: KickstART Gallery – we need a location. Discussion ensued.

Craft: There was a shooting in our Downtown, a targeted attack by a known relation of the victim. Craft personally knows victim and he's in rough shape. Please send thoughts and prayers.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Singleton, second by Deskins to adjourn. Motion passes unanimously.

Dates of Interest:

November 3-4 Michigan Downtown Association Conference in Muskegon

November 17, 5-9pm, Ladies Night Out in Downtown Farmington

November 26, Small Business Saturday

December 3, Holly Days, Greater Farmington Area Chamber, Downtown Farmington

December 7, 2022 DDA Board Meeting 8:00am