

DDA Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2021
6:05-7:05 p.m.

Call to order – Meeting was called to order by Chairman Szymborski at 6:09 p.m.

Roll Call

In Attendance:

Mayor Majewski
Vince Szymborski
John Grossi
Andrew Kopietz
Milo Madole
Andrew Dow
Joan Bittner
Dr. Shamiran Golani
Mark Hausner
Lawrence Ingram
Almad Al-Hassan
Mara Braciszewski – Administration

Absent:

Jobeh Abdulaziz

Guests: Taneem Taldar :

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment & Introduction of Public (two minutes limited to DDA issues)

Taneem Taldar : Spoke on recently moving to Hamtramck and works to assist new businesses in starting up. He will be presenting at the April Board Meeting.

Approval of Agenda – Addition or Deletion Items

A motion was made by Almad Al-Hassan, supported by Joan Bittner, and Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Andy Dow, supported by John Grossi, and Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 17th meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial Statements for the month ending February 28, 2021 for this meeting. Mr. Szymborski reviewed an internally prepared financial statement which was discussed. Recent expenses for snow removal, holiday decorations, and installation was covered. Fiscal year to date, the Revenues were \$22,726.93 vs. expenses of \$20,842.33 leaving a surplus of \$1,884.60. The reserve fund stood at \$148,589.06 at February 28, 2021.

SECTION I: AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion/Action/Information

a. Update on Tour de Troit and future plans (Vittoria Kattanski)

Vittoria provided an update as to the Paczki day run. The plan is to hold the event next year in the same manner as prior events were held. Regardless she indicated that Tour de Troit will still donate \$10,000 to the DDA in support of the MOGO Bike stations.

b. MEDC Main Street Presentation (Leigh Young) a. Consider re-organizing committees to follow Main Street model: Economic Vitality; Design; Organization; Promotion

Leigh Young provided an informational presentation on the MEDC's Main street program. This program's purpose is to attract residents and businesses, encourage local investment, and build community capital. The Board agreed to attend the training (online) to begin the process. From that point, the Board will assess what is needed to further participate.

The formal presentation was distributed to the Board.

c. Review and discuss revised "Sign Façade Improvement Grant" application (Appendix A)

The Board reviewed the revised grant application. The dollar amount of the Grant was raised to \$5,000 for either a sign or façade improvement. The Board will limit this to spending no more than \$25,000 per year. Approved applicants may not re-apply for a period of five years from the closure of the previous grant.

d. Consider accepting Boost Mobile Sign grant application

This application will be sent to the Façade Committee for further review.

e. Consider purchasing new DDA banners

This item will be reviewed by the Marketing Committee with a recommendation to be brought to the next Board meeting.

f. Review Communication Plan (Andy K) (Appendix B)

Andy reviewed a newly Social Media Guide for the purpose of facilitating Small Business posts. This guide can be used as the tool to feature individual Businesses within the DDA district. The Board members will sign up to facilitate the subsequent postings. A schedule was developed for that purpose.

g. Review board members attendance

For the March Meeting, all Board members were in attendance with the exception of Jobeh Abdulaziz.

h. Discuss deliverables for key DDA projects; address questions (Appendix C)

Due to the duration of the meeting, the projects which were attached to the agenda, should be reviewed by the Board. They will be discussed at the next meeting.

SECTION II: OTHER ITEMS

Chairman's Comments – N/A

Member Report –

Joan Bittner reminded the Board of the passing of Robert Zwolak. Bob was a frequent DDA meeting attendee and former City councilman. Bob will be remembered for his love and passion for the City of Hamtramck.

Mara reminded the Board of the spring clean-up opportunities. The Board was asked to hold Saturday April 24th for this purpose.

Andy K. briefly discussed the Bloomberg City Lab asphalt Art initiative. 20 US cities could receive up to \$25,000 for projects that use art and design to improve city safety, revitalize public spaces and engage local communities under an initiative launched by Bloomberg Philanthropies. Applications must be submitted by April 30th.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Szymborski, supported by Mr. Dow, and Board unanimously approved to adjourn at 7:41 p.m.