

Cheboygan Main Street DDA Regular Meeting – May 4, 2021

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 6:02pm

Roll Call

Present: Costin, Crongeyer, Eckhart, Khan-King, Mallory, Schneider, Stempky, Tebo, Villanueva

Absent: Weir

Consent Agenda

Motion by Khan-King, seconded by Schneider, to approved the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- a. Government for Tomorrow Presentation – Liam Dreyer www.govfortomorrow.org

Mr. Liam Dreyer introduced the Government for Tomorrow program, which works with cities and schools to create student board positions in local government. They work with Parks and Recreations, Library Board of Trustees, Downtown Development Authorities, and Planning Commissions to incorporate youth as non-voting board members. The program is costs cities \$0. Since it is near the end of the school year Government for Tomorrow would recommend working towards adding student positions in the fall of 2021.

Board members voiced their interest in getting youth involved in local government.

Katie Duczkowski agreed to help Mr. Dreyer connect with Cheboygan Area Hight School to get the conversation started.

- b. Social District Presentation – Bryan Groff

Mr. Bryan Groff from Cheboygan Brewing Company presented a social district proposal for downtown Cheboygan. He explained that the service industry, including local bars and restaurants, has been hit especially hard by COVID-19 restrictions. The proposed social district would span Main Street from Mackinaw Ave to Locust St and include commons areas at Festival Square, Washington Park, Pine St, and possibly the Water St parking lot, allowing safe consumption of alcoholic beverages within the common's areas.

Mayor Tebo advised getting the opinion of Chief Jones.

Board members decided to form a committee to further research social districts.

- c. Consideration to approve the Main Street DDA Director evaluation package

Motion by Khan-King, seconded by Stempky, to approve the Main Street DDA Director evaluation package. Motion passed unanimously

- d. Consideration to approve a one-thousand-dollar (\$1,000) façade grant for The Pig N Whistle, located at 219 N Main St.

Motion by Villanueva, seconded by Crongeyer, to approve a one-thousand-dollar (\$1,000) façade grant for The Pig N Whistle, located at 219 N Main St., contingent on approval of the FY21-22 Main Street DDA budget by City Council. Motion passed unanimously with Costin abstaining

- e. Consideration to approve the Main Street DDA budget for FY21-22

Motion by Stempky, seconded by Schneider, to approve the Main Street DDA budget for FY21-22. Motion passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report – Bobie Crongeyer

Bobie Crongeyer reported on the monthly financial reports. There were no questions from board member.

Committee Updates

f. Outreach Committee – Bobie Crongeyer

Bobie Crongeyer reported that an invitation has been sent to all business owners to participate in the holiday catalog.

Merchandise has been selected for the upcoming summer season.

g. Placemaking Committee – Christy Stempky

Christy Stempky reported that the décor subcommittee has met with members of Seedums Garden Club to discuss flowers at Festival Square.

Shine Up Cheboygan will take place Saturday, May 8th at the Fairgrounds. Dumpsters will be available along with options for scrap metal and electronics recycling. Habitat for Humanity will be on site to collect donations and the Main Street DDA will be collecting can donations.

Katie Duczkowski added that to date over 70 volunteer hours had contributed to trash pick-up around the community through Thursday night Clean Sweep events. She thanked volunteers for their time and encouraged continued participation in this bi-weekly event.

h. Events Committee – Brandon Weir

Katie Duczkowski reported that nearly all of the dates for Downtown Thursday Nights Live have been filled by musical performers. The events will start on Thursday June 10, 2021.

The next events committee meeting will be held in person at Festival Square on Monday May 10th at 4pm.

The events committee is consulting with MDOT and Chief Jones on an approved route for the 4th of July Parade.

Brandon Weir joined the call at 7:17pm

i. Business Development Committee – Polly Schneider

Polly Schneider asked for board member participation in the business development committee.

Polly Schneider announced that the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the June 17th Downtown Thursday Night Live. The Cheboygan Business Expo will take place downtown at Festival Square and Washington Park on June 17th

j. TIF Renewal Committee – Katie Duczkowski / Bobie Crongeyer

Katie Duczkowski reported a flyer has been created to ask for participation in the Development Area Citizens Committee.

City Council Report

Mayor Pro-Tem Mallory reported that RJ Archambo has been selected to fill the open City Council position.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mallory reported that redevelopment liquor license for Beau Est Beau has been approved by council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mallory reported that Big Water Development has been approved for a Community Development Block Grant.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mallory reported that Dan Sabolsky has been hired as the new Cheboygan City Manager and will start no later than June 1, 2021.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mallory reported that the sculpture URN-E has been approved by City Council to be located in Washington Park.

Mayor Tebo reported that Mr. & Mrs. Sabolsky will be in Cheboygan on May 7th to meet with city officials and tour the Cheboygan schools.

City Manager's Report

Emily Eckhart reported that a City Manager's report was sent via email to all board members.

Public Comments

Diane Raab commented that she was happy to see the Main Street DDA taking over some of the events previously hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. She was also pleased that the board was moving forward with a director evaluation.

Trudy Lofgren commented good meeting.

Board Member Comments

Costin applauded the clean up efforts of Shine Up Cheboygan and Downtown Clean Sweep.

Crongeyer thanked everyone who has contributed to the new Main Street website.

Schneider thanked everyone for the commitment to their committees. She noted that people visiting the Chamber office have commented on how great downtown looks and how excited they are about the progress of the Main Street DDA.

Schneider applauded the Shine Up Cheboygan efforts.

Stempky echoed the appreciation for volunteers.

Weir asked everyone to be on the lookout for more exciting information coming out of the events committee

Adjournment

Motion by Mallory, seconded by Stempky, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Chairperson Emily Eckhart