



## DDA MEETING MINUTES 1/16/2024

### 1. Call to Order

### 2. Roll Call

Costin Crongeyer Dodd Eckhart Mallory Myers Paull Stempky Villanueva

### 3. Consent Agenda: Costin motioned to approve and seconded by Mallory, Consent agenda approved

### 4. Treasurer's Report – December revenue \$3,780 expenses 43,283.75 bond interest 21,075 DDA Fluctuating payroll due to compensating city workers for work done for DDA.

### 5. Committee Updates

a. Outreach Committee – Crongeyer reported no meeting in December 2023

b. Placemaking Committee – Villanueva reported no meeting since November 2023

c. Events Committee – Dodd reported committee met in December to discuss freeze fest a cocoa crawl-like event 11am-2pm. Special Olympics fundraiser "shiver in the straits" occurring 1/20.

d. Business Development Committee – Schneider reported no updates at this time

e. Coast Guard Connection Committee – Presentation by co-chairs Sherry Nelson & Joanne Cromley reported that the committee established a potluck originally at Hive North, now Benton Township Hall. Committee purchased and flew a coast guard flag on the chamber of commerce flag pole. Committee has been selling ornaments. For the coast guard children, the committee has (for 2 years now) put together a card called "dear coast guard kid" during military children's month (April). The coast guard held an "open base" event wherein the coast guard opened its base to the public for tour. The committee held an ice cream social during the open base event. For the annual x-mas tree ship voyage, the committee obtained volunteers for the loading of the ship and the committee served chocolate and cookies to the crew and volunteers after loading the vessel. Lastly, the committee held a free skate for the crew and community and served cookies and hot chocolate. The committee is mulling over whether and when to apply to be a coast guard community.

f. Farmers Market Committee – Schneider reported there is no report at this time.

### 6. Reports

a. City Manager Report – Daniel Sabolsky reported the city passed a millage to raise money for the long-delayed acquisition of equipment. Do not believe everything that one reads in the paper with regard to the tissue paper plant. The city has not heard back on whether it obtained a 2.5 million grant for improvements to the recreation center and park. The city got the 871K spark grant for handicap parking and fishing piers. The city owns the Bodman house, the lease of which is expected to end soon, and the city is contemplating what to do with it. A candy store and pet store are expected to open soon. The city is looking for money to repair the city's sewer and water.

b. City Council Report – Mallory reported city prosecutor position is coming up again for bidding.



c. Director's Report – Polly Schneider, Executive Director see below

**7. Old Business**

a. MSU/ SBEI Report – Final Draft. Polly reported that the final report from SBEI has been received. Streetscape improvement is a high priority in the report. The board must brainstorm what and how to implement. It is expected it will be posted to the website in the future.

**8. New Business**

a. Michigan Main Street Vibrancy Grant Application to enhance Festival Square. No action needed at this time.

**9. Public Comments**

**10. Request for Future Agenda Items**

**11. Board Member Comments**

**12. Adjourn**