

Downtown Development Authority Meeting - Minutes September 17, 2024 – 7:00am

Members Present: Bob Chapin, Adam Elenbaas, Jeremy Borgman, Kellen Brusveen, Brent Clark, Angela Hatto, Tom Zuniga, Rence Meredith, Steve Spriensma

Absent: Ross Stevens, David VanderWall

Guests: Max Smith, Austin Smith, Tim VanBennekom, Dr. Patricia Roselund

Agenda

1. Opportunity for public comment – None Present
2. Approval of the March 19, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion by Meredith, support Borgman – Motion Approved
3. Enhancement Grant Review Committee – Need a New Member, discussion amongst group that an additional member would be helpful for review of applications, Spriensma to assist in review.
4. Enhancement Grant Application – Ensing’s Auto Service – Summary – Exterior facelift. Applicant anticipates making approximately \$90,000 - \$100,000 investment in improvements & is targeting the end of October to begin process. Motion by Meredith to consider the request for matching a \$20,000 investment from the applicant with an Enhancement grant. Support by Hatto. Motion Approved.
5. Chamber Updates – M45 Celebration went very smoothly. Chamber felt that DDA could help with how the park could handle the capacity for the event. Chamber would have liked to have a gate to allow trucks/vendors to enter & exit. However, for being the first celebration, the event was generally well supported and received by local businesses as well as sponsors. Anticipating double the attendance next year. Hoping to time with GVSU football schedule. Chamber & DDA would like to work together to help promote the event on local roads. Brusveen indicated that he would like to pursue options to promote on local roads. Chamber & DDA Members feel the event was successful, and learned a great deal for planning to have a successful event next year.

6. 2025 Budget Discussion - Members discussed the 2024 budget and the proposed 2025 budget. Tim VanBennekom, Allendale's Finance Director/Deputy Treasurer presented the breakdown for DDA funds capture. Members reviewed and will be meeting in both October & November to further develop budget & strategy.
7. DDA Updates – Discussions regarding: planning for subdivision re-paving plans. Ottawa County does not re-pave subdivisions, DDA will consider how the members can participate and continue to provide infrastructure and general improvement in the district. Town Center discussions continue, also planning to include assistance from GVSU & students for consideration on concepts & design.
8. Public comment – None present.
9. Next meetings: October 15, 2024 and November 19, 2024
10. Adjourn