

CITY OF IONIA
Downtown Development Authority
August 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The Ionia Downtown Development Authority meeting called to order by Board Chairperson Kirgis at 8:10am.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call revealed the following DDA Board members present: Dave Cook, Margot Cook, and Mike Kirgis. (**Quorum not met**)
Also in attendance were City Manager Jason Eppler, Finance Director Chris Hyzer, Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson, Guest John Krueger, and DDA Director Linda Curtis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INFORMATION:

CONSENT AGENDA:

DDA DIRECTOR UPDATE: DDA Director's report attached to meeting documents. Independent film crew visited Ionia on August 14 to scout out potential sites for an upcoming series. They will return on Saturday to begin filming. Business agreed to create a video showcasing Ionia which may be used in a recruitment package for businesses as noted in the RRC programing. Working with a potential buyer for 224 W Main – Independent Bank property – formerly office space for the bank. If sale is approved, the owner is interested in proceeding with MEDC grant funding for apartments on the second and third floors. Met with property owner of a building that is currently vacant and available for rent. Discussed possibility of a pop up retail shop with a local antique / furniture restoration business owner using this property.

THEATRE REPORT: Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson reported that a contractor will be secured to repair the exterior block work located on the front of the building. Holiday school programs are already scheduled and will also include times set for rehearsals this year. ISD will be presenting a full day workshop at the Theatre on Monday, August 20th with 500 plus in attendance. Downtown restaurants have been notified of the event and two local food trucks have been invited to also serve patrons during lunch breaks. Picnic tables will be placed in alleyway to accommodate the attendees for lunch. An independent film maker will be using the Theatre for his release of “Thy Neighbor”. Holiday movies should be strong during the upcoming months.

BOARD DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Mural Project: Place on September agenda.

OTHER: 1. Wayfinding Sign Project: Low bid to Valley Signs.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:40am.

.
Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Cook, Secretary
Linda Curtis, DDA Director