

CITY OF IONIA
Downtown Development Authority
May 20, 2015 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The City of Ionia Downtown Development Authority meeting called to order at 8:05am by Chairperson Mike Kirgis.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call revealed the following DDA Board members present: Dave Cook, Jim Killion, Mike Kirgis, Brett Patterson, and Rich Thompson. Also in attendance: City Manager Jason Eppler, Finance Director Robin Marhofer, Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson and DDA Director Linda Curtis. Special guests included Tina Conner-Wellman and Bart Lower.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Chamber Director Tina Conner-Wellman addressed the DDA Board of Directors regarding the newly established lease agreement for the sound system and speaker equipment. The rental fees for chamber related activities might reach \$1,000 total which is not currently in the events' budgets. With the majority of downtown community events being hosted by non-profit organizations, a request was made to not charge for the equipment usage. She suggested that other revenue streams be researched such as "go fund me" and "crowdfunding" to cover rental fees.

Bart Lower, representing Danny Boy's Drive-In Theatre attended the DDA Board meeting providing an overview of the future goals and timeline for the business. If at any time the DDA is interested in selling the Theatre, he would be interested in a purchase agreement. Looking forward, he would also be interested in the possibility of re-locating Danny Boy's to the Steele Street corridor if the opportunity arose. Jim Killion of Main Street Music was welcomed as a newly appointed Board member.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Member Cook, seconded by Member Patterson to approve the following:

To approve the minutes from the DDA meeting of April 14, 2015.

To approve the Accounts Payables for the DDA:

March 26, 2015 - April 25, 2015 in the amount of \$4,871.74.

To approve Accounts Payables for the Theatre:

March 26, 2015 - April 25, 2015 in the amount of \$19,168.32.

MOTION CARRIED.

DDA DIRECTOR UPDATE: DDA Director's report attached to meeting documents.

THEATRE REPORT: Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson reported on upcoming events including but not limited to the Upstairs Downtown Tour, Parks and Recreation Department summer programming movies, and concerts.

BOARD DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Budget adjustments and approval of same: A motion by Member Patterson, seconded by Member Killion to accept the proposed budget amendments as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER:

Rail Trail / Bridge update: City Manager Jason Eppler presented an update on the Prairie Creek trail section. Construction for the bridge that will span M-66 at the trail will begin early June with completion planned for late October.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Member Cook, seconded by Member Patterson to adjourn the meeting at 9:15am.
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rich Thompson, Secretary
Linda Curtis, DDA Director