

CITY OF IONIA
Downtown Development Authority
August 17, 2016 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The City of Ionia Downtown Development Authority meeting called to order at 8am by Board 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, City Finance Director Chris Hyzer, Ionia Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson, and DDA Director Linda Curtis. Guest Linda Ciangi.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Ionia County Historical Society representative Linda Ciangi presented an overview the proposed Ypsilanti Reed Historical Plaza marker. It would highlight four historical milestones of the community including the Mustang Shelby, Ypsilanti Reed Factory, the Woody auto and A.O. Smith Factory. A statue of Governor Fred Green would be placed in the center of the monument.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Member Cook, seconded by Member Patterson to approve the following: Minutes from the DDA meetings of May 18, 2016.

Accounts Payables for the DDA:

May 26, 2016 – June 25, 2016 in the amount of \$26,063.43.

June 26, 2016 – July 25, 2016 in the amount of \$17,482.59.

Accounts Payables for the Theatre:

May 26, 2016 – June 25, 2016 in the amount of \$23,111.86.

June 26, 2016 – July 25, 2016 in the amount of \$26,529.15.

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

THEATRE REPORT: Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson provided an overview of upgrades currently underway including but not limited to fresh coat paint on exterior doors and window frames in addition to restoration of a set of front entry doors. A representative from the Michigan Historical Magazine will be visiting the Theatre today to gather information for an upcoming article to be released later this year. The Ionia Community Theatre is celebrating their 50th anniversary at facility on August 27th.

BOARD DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. Wayfinding signage funding and committee appointments: The DDA in cooperation with the Ionia Planning Commission will be presenting a RFP for a consulting firm to assist with wayfinding signage for the downtown. Two representatives from each group will be placed on the committee.

2. Berger property: The former Berger car lot located on Lincoln Avenue will be scheduled for demolition in the near future. Motion by Member Cook, seconded by Member Killion to approve up to \$10,000 from DDA funding to assist with the costs of the demolition. Motion carried.

3. Downtown Mural: The DDA Director will assist Linda Ciangi with research relating to the painting of murals on the exteriors of several downtown buildings.

4. Ypsilanti Reed Historical Plaza: Over the estimated four year construction period, the DDA will set aside up to \$15,000 to assist with the project.

OTHER: Restore Church has set Christmas 2016 for the completion of the new building. Resurfacing of the parking lot will be completed with the estimated cost of \$55,000.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was concluded at 9:04am. Motion by Member Cook, seconded by Member Killion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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