

City of Ionia Downtown Development Authority
May 20, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: The Ionia Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 8:09AM by Chairperson Mike Kirgis. The meeting was held via teleconference due to Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-15.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None at this time.

ROLL CALL: Roll call revealed the following DDA Board of Directors present on call: Dave Cook, Mike Kirgis, John Krueger, and Paul Lentz Also attending: City Manager Jason Eppler, Finance Director Chris Hyzer, Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson, and DDA Director Linda Curtis.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Member Dave Lentz seconded by Member Cook to approve the following:
Minutes from the DDA meeting of April 2020.
DDA accounts payable for March 26, 2020 – April 25, 2020 in the amount of \$2,132.55.
Theatre accounts payable for March 26, 2020 – April 25, 2020 in the amount of \$6,338.88.
MOTION CARRIED.

DDA DIRECTOR UPDATE: DDA Director's report for the months of April / May 2020 attached.

THEATRE REPORT: Theatre Manager Gary Ferguson provided the Board with an overview of the current status of the industry shutdown. Curbside concession sales are held each week and to date have been successful. While Theatre is officially closed to the public, additional maintenance including floor painting, seat cleaning, and roof repairs are being completed.

BOARD DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. FY 2020 / 2021 DDA and Theatre Budgets: It was moved by Member Lentz, seconded by Member Dave Cook to approve the FY 2020 / 2021 DDA and Theatre budgets.
MOTION CARRIED.
2. Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival:
 - Motion by Member Dave Cook, seconded by Member Hemenway to cancel the 2020 Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival.
After much discussion regarding a full cancellation, postpone event or host a virtual Festival on June 12th – 13th, the original motion and second were withdrawn.
 - Moved by Member Hemenway, seconded by Member Krueger to host the Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival in a virtual format.
MOTION CARRIED.
3. 2020 Ionia Fireworks Display: It was moved by Member Hemenway to cancel the 2020 Ionia Fireworks Display AND to forward a 50% down payment to secure the 2021 date with Melrose Pyrotechnics, seconded by Member Lentz.
MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER:

1. Member Krueger provided an overview of the Small Business Recovery group that included several programs designed to promote the downtown businesses while the State's Stay at Home order continues.
 - Chamber of Commerce placed a full page ad in the Shoppers Guide to promote member businesses.
 - Community Cash program incentive. Over \$1,000 in gift certificates were sold during this promotion. This amount succeeds previous annual totals.
 - Promotion and updates placed within the DDA Newsletter.
 - The group may break for a time noting that the Stay at Home Order is temporary. Promotional programs have been based on these timelines.

2. Ionia Mural Project: Linda Ciangi and DDA Director Linda Curtis will travel to Westphalia to meet with the artist in June. Will discuss completion date and current status of mural. A grant application was submitted to the Michigan Council for Cultural Arts.

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56am with a motion by Member Dave Cook, seconded by Member Krueger.
MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by Recording Secretary DDA Director Linda Curtis.