



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2026.**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday June 11, 2026, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President P. Sala at 8:02 a.m. with Directors M. Weinrick, K. Kovacs, C. Durley, B. Glitt, C. Klecha, and R Caron present.

Absent: A. Clark, R. Stern

C. Durley made a motion to approve the absences of A. Clark. R. Caron seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Tara Laase-McKinney DDA Executive Director, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, and Brian Shier-Farmers Market Manager.

Agenda

C. Klecha made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment

No public comment

Consent Agenda

C. Durley made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 5/14/2026, bills for approval dated 5/1/2026 - 5/31/2026, financial reports as of 5/31/2026. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

May 2026 Bills:

Accident Fund	2,947.00	NMPSA	-90.09
Advance Auto Parts	556.81	North Country Disposal	750.00
Andrea Stader	100.00	OK Rental	684.76
Blue Cross Blue Shield	148.25	Otis Elevator	3,080.99
Board of Light & Power	2,397.46	Passport Labs, Inc	995.55
C. Pesola LLC	1,850.00	Pileated Farms	44.00
Card Connect	16.50	Prime Specialty	481.63
Cardmember Service	21,390.47	Seeds and Spores	242.00
Case Country Farm	129.00	SEMCO	598.78
Charter Communications	96.30	Shady Grove Farm	10.00
Chesla & Associates PC	324.00	Superior Culture	38.00

City of Marquette	2,759.49	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	1,900.00
Cricket Leg Creations	25.00	Tara Laase McKinney	102.40
Doozers	92.00	Tonella Farms	163.00
Enright Excavating	10,142.85	Traffic & Safety Control	950.00
Freshwind Farms	68.00	UP Gourmet	114.00
Full Plate Farm	129.00	UP North Roast	22.00
Gladstone Berry Farm	72.00	Vestis	381.98
Guindon Farms	30.00	VSP Insurance Co.	64.14
Honey Haven Baking Co.	9.00	Wally Tuccini	100.00
Integris	147.00	Wellspring Farm	168.00
Little Parsley Farm	33.00	Western Michigan Health	5,624.12
Mares-Z-Doats Feed Supply	828.62	Xerox Corporation	201.95
Marquette Fourth of July	2,500.00	Yoopers Country Farms	224.00
Marquette Monthly	825.00	Yoopers Sisters	33.00
		Payroll Costs and	
Midway Rentals	190.29	Benefits	64,821.19
Mining Journal	2,000.00	TOTAL	131,590.44
New Dalton Farm	78.00		

Old Business

Fourth of July Ball Drop Event Update

1. Businesses are invited to come out on the street with music, yard games, and events.
2. The intersection of Front and Washington will be closed from 9pm to 1am on July 3rd.

New Business

1. Façade Grant - Landmark Inn
 - a. The Landmark Inn is applying for a DDA Façade Grant to replace the ADA accessible doors on the main floor of the north side of their building. The total cost of this project is \$19,635.64, and they are requesting a DDA Façade Grant of \$6,545.21.
 - b. This would have fiscal effects of up to \$7,500 from the Façade Improvement Grant budget
 - c. C. Klecha made a motion to approve the Landmark Inn Façade Grant Project for up to \$7,500 from the Façade Improvement Grant budget. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.
2. FOIA Policy Updates
 - a. Staff is recommending updates to the Marquette Downtown Development Authority's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Policy to align the DDA's procedures and guidelines with the City of Marquette's recently updated FOIA Policy adopted by the City Commission in March 2026.
 - b. C. Durley made a motion to approve the Marquette Downtown Development Authority Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Policy as presented, effective immediately upon adoption. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.
3. Scheduled Budget Meeting July 23rd at 8:00am

Executive Director's Report –

1. Still working on map design for wayfinding but hopeful it will be done in the next week or two. At this rate, things might not be installed this fiscal year.
2. Liam is currently in Maine looking at the Multihog. The remote view was completed a couple of weeks ago.
3. The DDA is currently putting together a formal sidewalk planter policy. There are some businesses that are interested in putting planters out which is driving this discussion.
4. One of the projects that was on the possible docket for this summer was redoing the stair cluster between Bluff and Washington. It was determined that fixing the stairwell, while it is still structurally sound, does not make sense. Therefore, the infrastructure portion will be put on hold, and time will be spent on beautifying it.
5. The DDA is looking at putting a mural in the Main St. Hallway. This would go before the Design and Maintenance Committee. After that, it will come to the board for a vote.
6. Talking about lighting in the Lower Harbor during the holiday season to make it look a bit nicer. Options being discussed include light up decorations and possibly a lighted tree.

Operation Director's Report –

1. Sending out an email to the Parking Committee with the proposed budget.
2. A new "How to Use Pay Station" video went out on social media and is on our website.

Design and Maintenance Committee -

1. One Facade Grant came in that did not meet the threshold for the grant, so it was ultimately denied.
2. Meeting again to discuss the Facade Grant budget for next year.

Executive and Personnel Committee -

Meeting to be scheduled to further evaluate if we are keeping up with the wages for current personnel.

Farmers Market Committee -

1. Will be meeting next Wednesday 6/17/26
2. Looking to discuss the current budget and make recommended changes

Business Development and Promotions Director's Report

1. The Blueberry Fest poster has been chosen. The artist will be at the Blueberry Festival selling prints.
2. During the committee meeting Music on Third was discussed. Due to having to deny several musicians due to lack of space, it was discussed that June be added back to the lineup in 2027. This will be brought into consideration when planning for next year.

Farmers Market Manager's Report -

Vendors were very happy with the first Wednesday night market, and the Saturday market is likewise doing well.

Public Comment

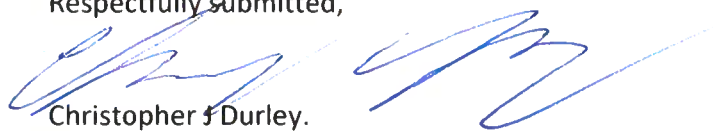
No public comment

Board Member Comment:

1. M. Weinrick: There was a street closure on Bluff St and Washington. During this time there was no signage put up, and the sidewalk has been left a mess
 - a. *Tara noted that this was an emergency water main break. Utility is not required to get the same permits which could have resulted in the lack of signage. They are also required to come back and fix the sidewalk.*
2. R. Caron: Recently traveled to a town where crosswalks had buckets of flags that people could use when no crossing guard was present.
3. P. Sala: Compliments to Brian on organizing the Farmers Market. Looking back on our annual meeting and remembering the reporting on downtown attendance during the holidays, wondering how we can increase foot traffic during that time.
4. C. Durley: Praise to Brian and the Saturday markets. Working on putting together a 5k in January.
5. K. Kovacs: Washington between 3rd and 4th is getting redone, after the 4th of July. A bunch of other places that will be done soon, working on grading, then paving. There will probably be some impact on Lakeshore Ave due to MIOSHA requirements with the Vault project; expect traffic diversions and a forthcoming announcement from the city. Currently working on approving an E-Bike ordinance on the multiuse path.
6. C. Klecha: Excited to see traffic picking up.
7. B. Glitt: No comment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14am. A motion was made by C. Klecha , seconded by C. Durley; motioned passed

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Durley.

Board Secretary

Marquette Downtown Development Authority