



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2022**

Call to order: A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday March 10, 2022 at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson J. Ottaway at 8:00 a.m. with Directors R. Caron, N. Durley-Rust, K. Kovacs, M. Morrison, L. Rowland, R. Stern, and M. Weinrick present.

Public Comment: None

There were no additions to the agenda.

A motion was made by M. Morrison and seconded by K. Kovacs to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes from 2/10/2022, bills for approval from 2/1/2022-2/28/2022, and the financial reports as of 2/28/2022. Motion carried.

906 Technologies	108.00	Industrial Marketing	265.55
American Welding & Gas Inc	37.33	IPS Group	5,546.16
AT&T Mobility	56.35	Marquette Monthly	315.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	2,387.56	North Country Disposal	235.00
Board of Light & Power	2,678.04	Office Depot	143.28
C. Pesola LLC	1,700.00	Pride Printing	260.00
Card Connect	4.99	Quality Car Care Center	1,525.59
Cardmember Service	633.65	State of Michigan - DELEG	310.00
Carquest	45.20	TK Elevator	842.44
Charter Communications	346.79	Traffic & Safety Control Systems	182,610.00
City of Marquette	1,746.00	U.P. Kubota	271.00
Compudyne	123.00	Xerox Corporation	244.29
Curran & Company	520.00	February Payroll	34,067.62
Heartland Services	843.06		

Old Business: By-Law Amendment (Reading 2 of 2): Currently, the MDDA bylaws identify the Executive/Personnel Committee as the MDDA Board Chair, Treasurer, and one other Board member as appointed by the Board Chair. The proposed amendment to the MDDA bylaws will specify the Executive/Personnel Committee be comprised of the MDDA Board Chair, the City Manager, and one additional Board member as appointed by the Board Chair. Per the requirements to amend the bylaws, this agenda item constitutes the second reading prior to a vote to accept the proposed amendment. It was moved by R. Caron and seconded by L. Rowland to accept the change to the MDDA By-laws. A roll call vote took place and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Façade Grant Application Review: Two applications were submitted; one from Highbridge Group for the amount of \$5,000 and the other from Third Street Hair Co. for the amount of \$3,155. After reviewing the applications, it was discussed that the application from Third Street Hair Co. did not meet the eligibility requirements for this grant. A motion was made by M. Morrison and seconded by M. Weinrick to deny their request based on their current application but invite them to

reapply again with a more comprehensive façade improvement grant proposal. Motion passed. Highbride Group's application did meet all the eligibility requirements and a motion was made by L. Rowland and seconded by M. Morrison to approve the grant request. Motion passed.

Ore Dock Brewing Company – Event Support Request: ODBC has completed the special events permit application for their Angry Bear Festival which would require street closure Friday April 8th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. through Sunday April 10th, 2022. The MDDA would provide snow fencing as a barrier around the event as well as some signage, electrical access, and assistance securing water from the fire hydrant to fill tent weigh barrels. A motion was made by M. Weinrick and seconded by L. Rowland to approve the event support request. Motion carried.

Ad Hoc TIF Committee: There have been a series of TIF meetings since the last board meeting. Five Third St. businesses have given feedback and at this current time R. Finco does not believe the majority of City Commissioners support the TIF project at this time. R. Caron said more businesses support the TIF but couldn't make it to the meetings. K. Kovacs said due to the City's budget shortfall and upcoming City Commission election, this project probably doesn't have the support it needs to pass and the MDDA should consider tabling the project until later in the year then re-strategize to gain more support.

Farmers Market Committee: At the last meeting the committee discussed an adjustment in vendor pricing and extending the Wednesday market from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. The committee is also redesigning the late fall market into more of a holiday themed bazaar as well as partnering with Art Week this year. There was also discussion on separating the farmers market from the MDDA and creating it as an independent nonprofit entity. L. Rowland was appointed to the Farmers Market and Design and Maintenance committees.

Director's Report: R. Finco attended the two-day Michigan Downtown Association Spring Conference in Lansing, where she was able to meet with legislators and served as a panelist for a workshop on the future of downtowns. R. Finco also reported that she has submitted a Match on Main grant application on behalf of Peace Pie Company, with an award announcement anticipated in mid-April. Restaurant Week is underway, with positive feedback from restaurants. The current maintenance staff is quite small right now and the head of maintenance position is still vacant. Snow removal has been an issue this year with a relatively new staff.

Public Comment: None.

Board Member Comment: M. Weinrick announced an upcoming event, "Earth Hour", where the lights are turned off from 8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. on April 22, 2022 to recognize global warming. He suggested this might be something the MDDA could participate in or post on their social media. K. Kovacs mentioned that all the MEDC folks in town for the U.P. 200 really enjoyed themselves that weekend. J. Ottaway noted that he appreciates the Third St. TIF discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nichole Durley-Rust, Secretary