



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2024**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday May 9, 2024, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President N. Durley-Rust at 8:02 a.m. with Directors P. Sala, R. Stern, M. Weinrick, R. Caron, A. Clark present.

Absent: K. Kovacs, M. Morrison, and L. Rowland.

P. Sala made a motion to approve the absences of K. Kovacs, M. Morrison, and L. Rowland. A. Clark seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Sean Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, and Brian Shier-Farmers Market Manager.

Agenda

R. Stern made a motion to approve the agenda. A. Clark seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

Consent Agenda

R. Stern made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from April 11, 2024, bills for approval dated 4/1/2024 to 4/30/2024, and financial reports as of 4/30/2024. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

April Bills:

Airgas	\$ 310.00	Lammi Fire Protection	\$ 129.55
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$ 39.52	Lowe's	\$ 119.94
Aramark	\$ 260.08	Mary Anne Welch	\$ 1,500.00
Baraga Telephone Company	\$ 10.44	Midway Rentals	\$ 1,141.12
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 148.10	Mining Journal	\$ 1,512.95
Board of Light & Power	\$ 2,233.41	Mission North, LLC	\$ 2,337.50
C. Pesola LLC	\$ 1,850.00	Mutt Mitt	\$ 507.92
Capital One Commercial	\$ 167.24	North Country Disposal	\$ 455.00
Cardmember Service	\$ 3,031.45	OK Rental	\$ 215.37
Carquest	\$ 210.96	Pitney Bowes	\$ 143.91
Charter Communications	\$ 79.98	SEMCO	\$ 428.59
Chesla & Associates PC	\$ 290.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$ 1,900.00
City of Marquette	\$ 1,786.00	TK Elevator	\$ 900.59
Cook Sign Service	\$ 289.70	Traffic & Safety Control Systems Inc	\$ 2,285.00

Curran & Company	\$ 662.49	Uline	\$ 1,543.83
Dalco	\$ 271.64	UPHS Occupational Medicine	\$ 125.00
Enright Excavating	\$ 7,857.14	VSP Insurance Co. Western Michigan	\$ 82.72
GEI Consultants	\$ (25.71)	Health Insurance	\$ 4,604.58
Gotcha Covered	\$ 2,000.00	Xerox Corporation	\$ 468.49
Heartland Services	\$ 1,265.28	Payroll & Benefits	\$ 47,533.27
Jesse Wright	\$ 785.00	Total	<u>\$ 91,458.05</u>

New Business

Honorable Distillery: The owners of the Honorable Distillery request an additional 5 years in their OPRA tax exemption. Ann White presented to the DDA Board and included information on the taxes they pay, their variable rate SBA loan and it's increases over projections, and their need for this extension.

After board discussion, P. Sala motioned to support a 5-year OPRA extension. R. Caron seconded. Motion passed.

Façade Improvement Grant – Wintergreen Hill Art Gallery

Wintergreen Hill Art Gallery located at 810 N. Third St. plans on replacing cedar shake siding with a similar looking material that is an engineered siding that is low maintenance and durable. R. Stern motioned to approve the façade grant. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Façade Improvement Grant – Tervo Agency

Tervo Agency purchased Foye Insurance Agency building at 125 W. Washington St. They plan to revive or repaint the front brick, replace front and rear windows, and update the back façade. R. Stern moved to approve the façade grant. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

Music on Third Street Closure Support

The DDA proposes closing parts of Third St. during Music on Third. The anticipated closure would be 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm from Park St. to College Ave. on the north and Arch St. to Ohio St. on the south. The DDA will use feedback from the June closure to determine whether to close for Music on Third in July, August, or September. N. Durley-Rust asked if we are planning to do anything in the street. M. Bradford said there are no initial plans for street vendors or activities. We can experiment with things in the future if this initial closure goes well. C. Clark suggested extra garbage cans. J. Lanciani suggested ending parking at 4 p.m. to allow time to notify any remaining parked cars. R. Stern motioned to approve the street closure. P. Sala seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports: None

S. Hobbins commented that the TIF ordinance will be on the City Commission Agenda Monday May 13, 2024.

Executive Director's Report – Maintenance is working on sealing red brick concrete, and then they will be putting out benches and bike racks. Superior Paving will be doing repairs in the Commons Lot and N. Main Lot this month. The city will be doing crack sealing in those lots. We will be getting quotes from engineering firms for the project concerning the coal bins on 100 N. Third St. near Yoophoria where the concrete on top is deteriorating. We will be asking Andy Smith for a quote for a Phil's Pocket Park project. Last year, Andy

developed a plan for the park which included improved lighting, pavers, landscaping, etc. We may apply for a MISHDA grant for neighborhood/park improvements. The grant is for projects up to \$75,000.

Operation Director's Report – The Bluff St. Elevator/Stair Tower is being painted this week. The back wall of the Bluff Ramp lower level will be painted in early June. RAM construction will be up to fix the Bluff Ramp joints hopefully this month. The Pier Lot Permits are being sold. Passport coupons were given to local businesses to give to customers. A Passport App workshop will be held at the library on June 12, 2024. The Parking Committee will meet in June or July, before our budget meeting, to discuss any changes for the next fiscal year.

Business Development and Promotions Director's Report – The Blueberry Fest poster contest is on display at the library and voting is open. The committee will meet in early June to decide on the winner. Tomorrow is the vendor deadline for Blueberry Fest. M. Bradford is finalizing musicians for Music on Third.

Farmers Market Manager's Report – The Commons Plaza is painted and ready for the market. The first Farmers Market is May 18th. There was a glitch in the invoicing system, but there is a work around. Thus far, we have sold 19 market member pins. The pins will be available at the information booth at the market.

Public Comment: None

Board Member Comment:

R. Stern had no comment. N. Durley Rust is happy spring is here. She will be on vacation next week. A. Clark is excited about façade grants and that businesses are taking initiative to be historically accurate. She is enjoying learning about the programs the DDA is involved in. P. Sala is excited about the summer event series. She said people are coming in the bank talking about the Farmers Market and events. She gets good feedback about the social district. M. Weinrick asked if it is possible to speak with Elks Lodge about removing graffiti. He's excited about summer events and the Farmers Market.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jodi Lanciani". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jodi" and last name "Lanciani" clearly distinguishable.

Jodi Lanciani, Operations Director

