



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for June 12th, 2025**

Call to Order: A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday June 12th, 2025, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President P. Sala at 8:05 a.m. with Directors R. Caron, M. Weinrick, C. Klecha, P. Sala, C. Durley, and K. Kovacs present.

Absent: A. Clark, R. Stern, and L. Rowland

M. Weinrick made a motion to approve the absences of A. Clark, R. Stern, and L. Rowland. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Tara Laase-McKinney DDA Executive Director, 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: C. Durley made a motion to approve the agenda. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment: No Public Comment

Consent Agenda: C. Durley made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 5/08/2025, bills for approval dated 5/01/2025 – 5/31/2025, and financial reports as of 5/31/2025. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

May 2025 Bills:

#9 Farms	\$ 9.00	Moonlight Meadows	\$ 45.00
Advance Auto Parts	\$ 247.41	New Dalton Farm	\$ 58.00
Bad Seed Hot Sauce	\$ 10.00	North Country Disposal	\$ 411.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 120.54	Northwoods Publishing, LLC	\$ 315.00
Board of Light & Power	\$ 2,403.23	OK Rental	\$ 785.97
C. Pesola LLC	\$ 1,850.00	Otis Elevator	\$ 125.00
Capital One Commercial	\$ 642.57	Pileated Farms	\$ 30.00
Card Connect	\$ 14.32	Pitney Bowes	\$ 143.91
Cardmember Service	\$ 3,011.47	Pomp's Tire Service	\$ 241.90
Case Country Farm	\$ 177.00	Range Telecommunication	\$ 464.38
Charter Communications	\$ 80.00	Ryan Dart Jazz	\$ 100.00
Chesla & Associates PC	\$ 389.50	Seeds and Spores	\$ 450.00
City of Marquette	\$ 3,047.45	SEMCO	\$ 416.28
Curran & Company	\$ 762.49	Shady Grove Farm	\$ 20.00
Dalco	\$ 161.36	Stericycle	\$ 159.44

Enright Excavating	\$ 8,571.42	Superior Culture	\$ 16.00
Evan Archambo	\$ 100.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$ 1,900.00
Freshwind Farms	\$ 11.00	Tonella Farms	\$ 27.00
Full Plate Farm	\$ 18.00	Traffic & Safety Control	\$ 950.00
Getz's Department Store	\$ 487.96	Uline	\$ 462.64
Gladstone Berry Farm	\$ 49.00	UP North Roast	\$ 20.00
Guindon Farms	\$ 346.00	Valenti, Chris	\$ 100.00
Heartland Services	\$ 1,045.34	Vestis	\$ 336.97
Integris	\$ 144.16	VSP Insurance Co.	\$ 57.97
Jesse Wright	\$ 344.00	Wellspring Farm	\$ 43.00
Lake Superior Press	\$ 785.40	Western Michigan Health	\$ 4,009.13
Little Parsley Farm	\$ 67.00	Yoopers Country Farms	\$ 77.00
Marquette Monthly	\$ 825.00	Zarnoth Brush Works, Inc	\$ 555.00
Mining Journal	\$ 400.00	Payroll & Benefits	\$ 55,045.23
Mission North, LLC	\$ 5,657.50	TOTAL	\$ 99,143.94

New Business

1. Vending Machine Lease

- a. Shipwrecked LLC has proposed leasing a space for a vending machine in the Bluff St. Ramp stairwell. This would generate \$500 per year for the DDA.
- b. The recommendation is that we approve the vending machine lease for a period of two years.
- c. M. Weinrick made a motion to approve and send the recommendation to the City Commission. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

2. Wayfinding Firm Selection

- a. In 2025, the DDA began the task of putting together an RFQ for Wayfinding in Downtown Marquette. Nine bids were submitted.
- b. The recommendation is to award the bid for Phase One Wayfinding in Downtown Marquette to Corbin Designs for \$49,650 from the street furnishings, flags, and signs budget
- c. C. Klecha made a motion to approve the bid. K. Kovacs seconded; motion passed.

3. **Schedule budget meeting:** The date of July 31st at 8:00 a.m. was proposed. K. Kovacs made a motion to approve the date for the meeting. C. Klecha seconded; motion passes.

Executive Director's Report

1. All the flowers are out for the summer around the Downtown District.
2. The DDA was able to get an additional storage unit on Baraga Ave in response to losing the 5th St. garage.
3. Staffing levels are full.

Business Development and Promotions Director's Report

1. Blueberry fest poster winner is decided.

2. There will be no Music on Third of this month, which allows the DDA to double the pay of the musicians for the remaining dates.
3. The Inside Out project on the S. side of the Delft Theater is set to premier during art week this year, the 26th of June.
4. The first Wednesday market kicked off on June 11th, 2025 and went well.

Farmers Market Manager's Report

1. Markets are going great. All the market managers in the state that Brian has spoken with have noticed an increase in turnouts.
2. Vendors are making record sales.

Sean Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager:

Development at 401 W. Washington update - A few months ago, developers put forth a Brownfield proposal for 401 W. Washington St. When they came to the DDA Board, they were looking at close to the max capture return. They have dropped from a 30-year plan to a 20-year plan and raised the subsidy units from four to nine.

Operations Director's Report

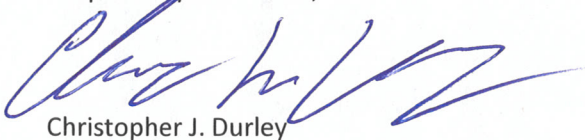
1. The city installed a curb cut for accessibility on the 100 block of Washington.
2. Bluff St. ramp repairs are completed.
3. The DDA replaced the carpet in the Washington St. tower hallway.
4. Parking signs went up at One Marquette Place.

Board Member Comment:

1. **R. Caron:** Recently visited Rochester and was impressed with their Wayfinding
2. **M. Weinrick:** No Comment.
3. **Klecha:** Waiting to hear on the MEDC Grant and excited for the proposals shared today. He noted that the Baraga Block has been busy with the new hotel
4. **P. Sala:** Noticed more activity on Baraga St. as well. She is excited for upcoming signage to pull all these downtown areas together
5. **C. Durley:** Mentioned local business owners made comments on trash pick-up and restaurant week.
6. **K. Kovacs:**
 - a. E-bikes: Trying to enforce new policies to make the multi-use paths safer.
 - b. Solid Waste: Going through a lot of transition with the carts and dealing with staffing issues with the contracted company. The business district trash receptacles should be picked up by 7:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Durley

