



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2024**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday September 12, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice Chair R. Stern at 8:03 a.m. with Directors C. Klecha, P. Sala, M. Weinrick, R. Caron, A. Clark present.

Absent: K. Kovacs, L. Rowland and N. Durley-Rust gave advance notice of their absences.

C. Klecha made a motion to approve the absences of K. Kovacs, L. Rowland, and N. Durley-Rust. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director and Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director.

Agenda P. Sala made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment – None

Consent Agenda M. Weinrick made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from August 8, 2024, bills for approval dated August 31, 2024, and financial reports as of August 31, 2024. A. Clark seconded; motion passed.

August 2024 Bills:

#9 Farms	\$ 84.00	Jesse Wright	\$ 5,920.00
A Place To Land	\$ 300.00	Lake Superior Press	\$ 656.00
Airgas	\$ 338.37	Lammi Fire Protection	\$ 90.00
All About Services	\$ 2,240.00	Little Parsley Farm	\$ 533.00
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$ 39.52	Maple Syrup Hunk	\$ 148.00
Andrea Stader	\$ 75.00	Mares-Z-Doats Feed Supply	\$ 262.05
Aries Wild Blueberries	\$ 178.00	Marquette Monthly	\$ 795.00
Bakery Barn Yooper Yummies	\$ 18.00	Midway Rentals	\$ 560.76
Big Creek Farm	\$ 72.00	Misery Bay Coffee	\$ 21.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 129.30	Nagelkirk Landscapes	\$ 326.65
Board of Light & Power	\$ 2,200.00	New Dalton Farm	\$ 1,398.00
Brown Equipment Company	\$ 148.64	Noah Bauer	\$ 75.00
C. Pesola LLC	\$ 1,850.00	North Country Disposal	\$ 825.00

Capital One Commercial	\$ 449.11	Pileated Farms	\$ 178.00
Card Connect	\$ 124.37	Pitney Bowes	\$ 143.91
Cardmember Service	\$ 4,095.25	Rational Wellness & Training	\$ 35.00
		Seeds and Spores Family	
Carquest	\$ 274.64	Farm	\$ 3,627.00
Case Country Farm	\$ 144.00	SEMCO	\$ 63.90
Charter Communications	\$ 79.98	Shady Grove Farm	\$ 101.00
Chesla & Associates PC	\$ 435.00	Signs Now	\$ 1,999.70
City of Marquette	\$ 5,728.42	Snowy Acres Vegetable Farm	\$ 447.00
Cook Sign Service	\$ 910.92	State of Michigan - DELEG	\$ 679.80
Copeman, Jenn	\$ 175.00	Stericycle	\$ 74.50
Cross General Contracting	\$ 25,430.40	Superior Culture	\$ 38.00
Curran & Company	\$ 662.49	Swampy Acres LLC	\$ 168.00
Dalco	\$ 835.41	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$ 1,900.00
Dancing Crane Farm LLC	\$ 178.00	Tervo Agency	\$ 7,500.00
Doozers	\$ 97.00	Tonella Farms	\$ 545.00
		Traffic & Safety Control	
Ever Yielding Acres	\$ 188.00	Systems	\$ 4,190.00
Fairest Promises	\$ 173.00	Traunik Farm	\$ 166.00
For Goodness Cakes	\$ 57.00	Uline	\$ 1,549.34
Freshwind Farms	\$ 116.00	UP Gourmet	\$ 331.00
Full Plate Farm	\$ 2,023.00	UP North Roast	\$ 37.00
Generations Jazz	\$ 75.00	UPHS Occupational Medicine	\$ 420.00
Getz's Department Store	\$ 386.45	Vestis	\$ 397.13
Gladstone Berry Farm	\$ 1,084.00	VSP Insurance Co.	\$ 82.72
Guindon Farms	\$ 58.00	Wellspring Farm	\$ 749.00
		Western Michigan Health	
Haybay's Daisy Desserts	\$ 12.00	Insurance	\$ 3,688.24
Heartland Services	\$ 3,032.77	Wolverine Door	\$ 739.21
Honey Baked Bread Co.	\$ 20.00	Xerox Corporation	\$ 217.83
Incredible Bank	\$ 138,011.50	Yooper Country Farms	\$ 835.00
Independent Landscape	\$ 2,375.00	Payroll Costs & Benefits	\$ 82,912.76
Integris	\$ 572.94	Total	\$ 320,903.98

New Business: None

Committee Reports

Design and Maintenance Committee: Tara sent out the 2024 Façade Improvement Grant application to the committee to review. Five or six businesses are already interested, and some would like to apply as soon as October 1, 2024, when the grant will open. No changes to the application were proposed. A. Clark asked about design guidelines for the downtown. There is some guidance in the

application itself. Tara will research other communities' approach to design guidelines. M. Weinrick suggested looking at the community master plan as well.

Executive Director's Report – Bids for snowplowing and holiday greens went out last week. These will be discussed at the October meeting. The DDA hired a new full-time maintenance worker. Tara and Jodi attended a webinar about the new earned sick time act. A few things in our personnel policy will need to be changed, and the amended policy will be presented to the board for approval in the next month or two. In about two weeks, the DDA will start the first phase of redesigning the pocket park. The Phil statue was not able to be fixed, and so it will go in storage. Some of the new features of the pocket park will include pavers, movable benches, increased lighting and possibly display panels for rotating artwork.

Operation Director's Report – The parking committee will review the parking permit grant application for 2025 and recommend any changes. The committee will also discuss whether the Pier Lot should revert to free parking as it is not getting much use with the Pay by Passport App signs.

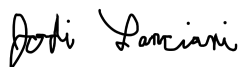
Business Development and Promotions Director's Report The last music on 3rd for the season is scheduled for next Thursday, September 19th, with the street closure at 5:30 pm and the event starting at 6 pm. There will be 18 performers. The Holiday Light Display Grant was sent to the business development and promotion committee for review, and Mike will also get feedback on the grant from businesses at the next downtown connect meeting. The grant has a total budget of \$5,000 which allows for 20 businesses to receive \$250 with a 50% match of \$125. Mike is working to overhaul the Holiday Parade, the Holiday Market (now Yule Market), the city tree lighting, and the winter lights festival. The DDA is trying to make the downtown cheery and full of lights during the darkest month of the year. Mike is also working on a holiday sponsorship packet for the fall/winter events.

Public Comment: None.

Board Member Comment: R. Caron was pleased that Beer Fest was less of a disaster for local restaurants. There were no incidents at his restaurant. A. Clark had no comments. P. Sala relayed that a few business owners would like to see something in January/February that could liven up downtown. She also commented on the aging buildings downtown that will need repairs. C. Klecha mentioned the new sculptures at the piers and the new taco restaurant on Baraga Ave. M. Weinrick suggested the Arts and Culture Center might be willing to house the Phil Statue when their new building is ready. R. Stern noticed the homeless population seems to be less prevalent this summer. He also encouraged board members to attend the hockey game fundraiser for United Way tomorrow night.

P. Sala made a motion to conclude the meeting, A. Clark seconded, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi Lanciani, Operations Director