



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for October 12, 2023**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday October 12, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President N. Durley-Rust at 8:04 a.m. with Directors M. Morrison, P. Sala, R. Caron, R. Stern, L. Rowland, K. Kovacs, A. Clark, and M. Weinrick present.

Others in attendance were Sean Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager, Tara Laase-McKinney-DDA Executive Director, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, and Sarah Johnson, DDA- Farmer's Market Manager.

R. Stern made a motion to approve the agenda. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda

P. Sala made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 9/14/2023, bills for approval 9/1/23-9/30/23, and financial reports as of 9/30/2023. R. Stern seconded; motion passed.

#9 Farms	\$9.00	Little Parsley Farm	\$1,172.00
A Place To Land	\$400.00	Lowe's	\$65.80
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$38.83	Mares-Z-Doats Feed Supply	\$193.90
Aramark	\$230.24	Marquette Maple Company	\$628.00
Arielle WHO	\$100.00	Marquette Wallpaper & Paint	\$113.81
Art of Framing	\$280.15	Midway Rentals	\$26.03
Bakery Barn Yooper Yummies	\$38.00	Moonlight Meadows	\$54.00
Baraga Telephone Company	\$9.47	New Dalton Farm	\$695.00
Barrel & Beam LLC	\$500.00	NMPSA	\$275.00
Becky's Roadside Refreshment	\$58.00	North Country Disposal	\$477.50
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$2,497.32	Northern Sky Orchard	\$177.00
Board of Light & Power	\$2,220.98	Otis Elevator	\$1,115.38
Borealis Baking Company	\$65.00	Peninsula Fiber Network LLC	\$342.48
C. Pesola LLC	\$1,700.00	Pileated Farms	\$209.00
Capital One Commercial	\$983.19	Radio Results Network (RRN)	\$6,500.00
Card Connect	\$129.05	Ram Construction Services	\$3,600.00
Cardmember Service	\$15,571.80	Rock River Farm	\$2,500.00
Carquest	\$114.99	Seeds and Spores Family Farm	\$2,650.00

Case Country Farm	\$30.00	SEMCO	\$60.94
Charter Communications	\$79.98	Shady Grove Farm	\$24.00
Chesla & Associates PC	\$280.00	Snowy Acres Vegetable Farm	\$437.00
Chloe Lea Creations	\$500.00	Staples	\$88.69
City of Marquette	\$5,289.52	Superior Culture	\$23.00
Cross General Contracting	\$8,509.00	Superior String Alliance	\$75.00
Curran & Company	\$662.49	Swampy Acres LLC	\$231.00
Dalco	\$342.96	Swanzy Farm	\$1,068.00
Dancing Crane Farm LLC	\$188.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$1,900.00
Doozers	\$36.00	Tara Laase McKinney	\$86.59
Ever Yielding Acres	\$1,397.00	Tonella Farms	\$499.00
Fairest Promises	\$192.00	Traffic & Safety Control Systems Inc	\$950.00
Farmer Lake Hydroponic	\$93.00	Treasa's Treasures	\$399.00
Fastenal	\$344.95	UP Gourmet	\$1,209.00
French-tastic	\$36.00	UP North Roast	\$60.00
Freshwind Farms	\$90.00	UP North Yarns	\$140.00
Full Plate Farm	\$1,848.00	WLUC	\$5,000.00
Gladstone Berry Farm	\$1,262.00	Womens Center of Marquette	\$8,571.00
Going Small Farm LLC	\$10.00	Xerox Corporation	\$473.85
Guindon Farms	\$25.00	Yooper Country Farms	\$1,239.00
Heartland Services	\$3,585.96	Yooper Mama, LLC	\$53.00
Integris	\$79.00	Yooper Shirts	\$3,945.50
Lakeshore Depot L3C	\$33.00	Yooper Sisters	\$13.00
Lamar Advertising	\$395.00	Total Payroll Costs and Benefits	\$41,530.34
			<u>\$139,126.69</u>

Presentation

A Farmers Market presentation from Sarah Johnson provided an update on results of the Wednesday Evening Farmers Market. Overall, the Wednesday Evening Farmers Market saw significant increases in every category and was considered a success.

Old Business: None

New Business

Holiday Basket Bid: L. Rowland made a motion to award the holiday basket contract to Rock River Farms in the amount of \$4,014. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Snowplow Bid: R. Stern made a motion to award the 2023-24 snow removal contract to Enright Excavating for a total of \$55,000. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Committee Reports

Farmer's Market - Nothing to report.

TIF Update - N. Durley-Rust provided an update. Consultant R. Bacigalupi, is working on a comprehensive TIF plan which is expected to be complete and presented to the DDA at the November or December board meeting.

Executive Committee- N. Durley-Rust scheduled a meeting for the director's annual review on **Nov. 6th at 8:00 a.m.**

Director's Report: Tara Laase-McKinney provided an update. Unexpected sidewalk repairs are needed in several spots on Third St. and Washington St. The Commons building had door keypads and security cameras installed. Motion sensors will be installed in bathrooms for additional security. There was community concern regarding grub treatment on the Commons lawn. Tara responded to the concerned community member and will evaluate alternate methods. The DDA did not receive the MEDC RAP Grant and may apply for the next round. Tara has a call scheduled with MEDC representative for feedback.

Mike provided an update about downtown events. Plaidurday was a success. Downtown trick-or-treating is scheduled for Oct. 28th. There are extended hours for "Ladies Day Out" on Nov. 16. The DDA is seeking sponsors for the Holiday Parade. Mike continues to meet with RATI and City Police regarding the homeless population.

Jodi provided an update on parking. There is a fall promotion for Passport app. The Pier Lot is now available for public parking. She is working on an employee parking grant for downtown businesses. Insurance renewal is approaching.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Board Member Comment: Rob said business has been great this summer/fall. Lauren, Alison, Patricia, Marc, and Nicole all expressed positive remarks about the success of the Wednesday evening and Saturday morning Farmers Markets. Nicole requested more communication about Travel Marquette's savings pass. Ryan is happy about parking revenue increases.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Meagen Morrison, Secretary

