

**ROSCOMMON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**May 18, 2015**

**Members Present:** Jock, Lippert, Anderson, Weiss, Weiler, Schwalm, O'Brien, Norton, Legg, Adams, Spangler, Hodges, Rosczyk

**Others Present:** Dan Fishell, Mark Larsen, Vickie Sheathelm, Kelly Annis, Rosalie Myers,

Motion by Weiss with support from Norton to accept the Secretary's report. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Spangler with support from Norton to approve the Treasurer's report with the addition of one bill for the farmers market for miscellaneous supplies in the amount of \$52.87. All in favor motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE & PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kelly Annis asked if we had concerns whether there would be enough parking when the office moves downtown. John Rosczyk met with Dan Fishell and Sue Jock they have a tentative contract. John's first day will be June 1<sup>st</sup>. Rosalie Myers asked for financial assistance from the DDA to help defray the cost of bringing in Deb Brown as a speaker in September for a presentation. The cost of the speaker is \$2,000. Jock made a motion to contribute \$500 to bring the speaker here. Second by Legg. All in favor motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Façade Grant** - No word back from Hart Ford. Request from the Lion's Club for share in the cost of their new roof. Cost is \$8,200 shared cost \$4,100. Motion by Spangler second by Norton to approve the façade grant for the Lion's club. All in favor motion carried. Tim Legg abstained. Façade grant request from Gaylor Insurance for a new sign on hold due to unpaid property taxes. The Child Assessment Center within the CRAF center is requesting \$325 for landscaping the request does not meet the requirement of our façade grant, CRAF center could request funds possibly under streetscape.

**DDA Taskforce** - Erin has talked to John on various issues. They will be meeting more to develop a plan with the taskforce. Focus will be on the main four corners of town, maintenance of buildings paint etc.

**Sidewalks and Streetscapes** - Andrea not sure if Gregg has trimmed no bill yet. Sidewalks should be cleaned before Memorial Weekend. Dead tree was removed.

**Website** - Jim talked to Todd Jansen he will get the information to Scott Marshall for the DDA website. We need to get other properties not listed with realtors on the DDA site as well. Todd will help with a platform of what we need from the property owners to be able to list on the DDA site. Jim will follow up with Todd to communicate with Scott.

Correspondence from Greg at the Village giving us a heads up regarding sidewalk replacement projects, keeping DDA in the loop.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Members to be sworn in** - Jock, Schwalm, Spangler, Lippert

**Hometown Decorating** - Have 4 wreaths up currently. There is still a problem with one wreath due to voltage spikes. Wreaths will be down by the weekend.

**Wallace Park to Hilltop walkway** - Still no success with making contact with property owner regarding the easement. This would be a fall or winter project if it moves forward. Sue will follow up with Jim Ward regarding property easement on his property. Jim Anderson expressed we need to pursue the easements and look for grants to help fund the project. If we go forward with this project this year funds for any other projects that come up would be minimal. Only option MDOT grants. DNR grants not an option our project doesn't meet DNR requirements. Need to get the County on board and push the engineers to see what grants are out there. Road Commission has been key player.

**NuCraft drainage problem** - No update.

**DDA map update** - Mistake on it – still need to research.

**Board of Education Offices** - Heating person will be there today to show us everything works.

**Snowmobile trail route** – Update from Jock the Recreation committee discussed signage by the River Center that would point to food and gas in town. The designated trail signs the DDA contributed towards will be placed on the route through town. Hoping to have up by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Metro Park** - Grand opening this past Saturday – ribbon cutting - positive comments. Recreation Authority has not planned any projects for his year. Planning for the following year to finish the remainder of that area.

**Tisdale** – Sue walked with the forester - very informative. There will be a replanting of different pine trees in different areas. They have two years to complete this process.

**Recreation Authority** – 2 funds raisers – Drive one for your community at Ford Hart - \$20 to Recreation Committee for each person who drives Tuesday from 9 to 5. Can drive starting today.

**CRAF Center projects** - They are looking for funds for new equipment, security system, looking to increase membership – keyless entry – secure workout area 24 hour access.

**DDA file cabinets** – Jock working on it

**Utility extension on M-18** - Mark Larsen reported C2AE said it is possible to get sewer without having to get a lift station in immediately on the M 18 property.

**Trash Receptacles** - Due in any time now. McDonalds putting \$500 towards project – Tom filled out application with Family Fare for \$600.

**Fence in pocket park** - Amount approved was \$800 last month. Have approval for the fence. Hoping to have it completed by the end of June.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Economic Outlook** – Wait until new manager in place

**VIP Marketing & Publishing LLC** – Scott Marshall wanted to look at the AuSable Drug now looking at the Bradley Furniture store – possible development agreement with the DDA. Committee will work on options.

**WiFi Locations** – Jim believes it will be turned back on today in good faith. M33 is offering an upscale plan for the low plan price. Offering 5 spots for \$300 a month. Motion made by Jock support from Spangler to renew for one year and re-evaluate options and investigate whether we should consider an up-grade in the future. Motion approved. Opposed Legg.

**Keith Boyne (food truck)** – Keith is interested in renting space in the parking lot for his food truck. Hodges doesn't feel we should provide space for a non-permanent business when we are trying to attract permanent businesses in the empty buildings. He feels Keith should approach private business owners for space rather than the DDA. Motion by Jock to allow the food truck to be positioned in the back corner for rent, have him suggest an amount of rent. Second by Legg. Motion approved 7 to 5. Those in favor O'Brien, Anderson, Schwalm, Jock, Legg, Lippert and Adams those opposed Weiss, Hodges, Norton, Spangler and Weiler.

**Blight Elimination Program** – Erin mentioned a grant opportunity to tear the old theatre building down. John mentioned it is worth putting in for but isn't sure how well we would score. John will follow up with Rebecca at the County.

**FUTURE PROJECTS** None to report.

**LIAISON REPORTS** Chamber Business Expo – Wednesday 3:00 to 6:30.

**Meeting Adjourned 10:00**