

Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
SPECIAL MEETING
Minutes
Monday, April 12, 2021

The special meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, April 12, 2021 in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, Sandy Arsenault, John Carlson, Carrie Meyer via Zoom at home, Tracy Magnuson, Jason Chapman, Rob Taylor, Jay Clancey, and Craig Cugini (9). Absent: Eric Laksonen and David Aro (2).

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

REVIEW FAÇADE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Dave's Barber Shop - David Portale, Dave's Barber Shop, reviewed his proposal for the façade grant and the new roof design for the Barber Shop. There was discussion regarding the proposed revisions to be made to the roof. He felt it would be very appealing with the new roof line and shingles.

There was discussion among the DDA and Mr. Portale related to the proposed application, the timeline, and if the project would still be pursued if a DDA Façade grant was not received.

Member Aeh thanked Mr. Portale for having his business in the downtown.

Velodrome Coffee - Bryce Sturmer, Velodrome Coffee Company, located in Marquette will be opening in Ishpeming. They were in the process of purchasing the "Merrick" building and advised the building would be split with West Ventures, LLC. They would like to spend as much of their resources on the café and grocery sections inside the store so the Façade grant would be a tremendous help for the outside. They were proposing a bar seating element to the outside, a pickup window, and update the entrance with fresh coverings on the two surfaces, as well as, the back of the building using the façade grant dollars. He noted outside seating would be threaded into the sidewalk so they could be removed for the winter.

Members Aeh questioned the new roof being installed on the building. They will be accessing capital and will be closing hopefully in the next two weeks. Would like to begin construction as soon as possible and would like to get things moving and be open by late June. Would still move forward the façade would be scaled back.

There was discussion related to the project including the inside and outside seating; the new roof being installed on the building, and if the project would still be pursued if a DDA façade grant was not received; Mr. Sturmer advised it would but the outside would be scaled back. The DDA felt this would be a great project for the downtown.

West Ventures, LLC - Spencer Prusi, West Ventures, LLC, briefly highlight the proposed scope of the façade grant submitted. They intended to use the façade funds for one large window, ADA entry doors, a new smaller window, and match the up faced with Velodrome Coffee. The sign in the drawings was the current sign, however, would like to do a 24-hour lighted sign to brighten up the downtown area in the evening. The inside would consist of a 2400 square foot showroom, ADA bathroom, a service area, and bike washing station. They would like to construct an indoor test track for bikes in the future. They would like to open by June 1st. Thanked the community for being so supportive.

Member Carlson thought the button for the door at West Ventures was a great asset for a bike shop.

After the presentation, the DDA reviewed the applications and discussed the ranking process. Each business submitted applications to help make Ishpeming better. Each DDA Member submitted their ranking of the proposed projects.

The following guidelines would be used to rank the project.

- *Location in the core historic district within the TIF District -10 points*
- *Quality impact of project – 15 points*
- *Historical architectural significance – 15 points*
- *Visual prominence of the building and location in the district or and ADA statement -10 points*

The scoring was:

38.7 points -- Dave's Barber Shop

46.5 -- Velodrome Coffee

46 -- West Ventures

There was discussion regarding the points and how funds should be allocated between the applicants.

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, supported by Member Arsenault and carried unanimously to allocate \$5,000 to Dave's Barber Shop, \$7,500 for Velodrome Coffee, and \$7,500 for West Ventures, LLC and to advise Dave's Barber Shop the dollars were for work on the barber shop 200 S. Pine Street only not on the rental unit.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:05 p.m., a motion was made by Member Chapman, supported by Member Carlson and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager