

Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2015

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, November 23, 2015 in the Ray Leverton Room at the Carnegie Public Library. The meeting was called to order by David Aeh at 4:00 p.m.

Present: David Aeh, David Aro, Rosemarie Strom, Sandy Arsenault, Jay Clancey, Judy Hodges, and Claudia Demarest (7). Absent were Diane Gauthier, Anne Giroux, and Mark Slown (3).

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mrs. Arsenault and carried unanimously to approve the October 26, 2015 minutes as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Arsenault, supported by Mrs. Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the financial report for the month ending October 2015.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Linda Andriacchi asked about the possibility of obtaining a pre-paid credit card to purchase flowers for beautification, especially when she is out of the area; there was discussion regarding the Christmas decorations and the number of Christmas lights night working; discussed the possibility of gardening/flowers on some of the areas where the blighted building was torn down; and reported on what flowers would be planted in what baskets for next year. In addition, she questioned the possibility of a horticulture ordinance being adopted for the City.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT

Members briefly reviewed the Chamber of Commerce report.

ENTRYWAY SIGN

Members expressed how nice the new entryway sign looked. Property was still being looked into for the West entryway sign.

BLIGHT ELIMINATION GRANT

(a) 116 Canda Street Deed

There was discussion pertaining to the shared wall with 110 Canda Street and the necessity of obtaining bids from engineers to determine how to proceed with the demolition.

A motion was made by Mrs. Demarest supported by Mrs. Arsenault and carried unanimously to authorize the City Manager to obtain bids from architect/engineering firms and bring the bids back to the DDA for approval.

DDA FAÇADE BOUNDARY

There was discussion related to the request from Gretchen Dennis, owner of Hometown Service, regarding the expansion of the DDA Façade District boundary and what area the district should include.

After discussion it was the consensus of the DDA to establish a subcommittee to review the boundary for the façade program and make a recommendation back to the DDA. The Committee would consist of Members Sandy Arsenault, Claudia Demarest, Rose Strom, and Mark Slown.

DDA PRIORITY SITES FOR REDEVELOPMENT

The DDA reviewed the tally of the top three sites for redevelopment as part of the Redevelopment Ready Communities initiative. The top three sites for the DDA were: the Nardi Building, the Round-about area, and the Brownstone.

ISHPEMING BUSINESS ASSOCIATION REPORT

David Aeh reported Ladies Night Out had a wonderful turn out and everyone had a great time. He gave an update and the schedule for the Christmas events.

OLD BUSINESS - There was none.

NEW BUSINESS


It was the consensus of the DDA to cancel the December 28, 2015 DDA meeting and if necessary hold the January meeting earlier in the month.

Mrs. Demarest reminded everyone of the Library open house scheduled for December 6th.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:35 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Demarest, supported by Mr. Clancey and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary