



Downtown Development Authority Board  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**June 27, 2019, 2019 at 8:00 am**

*Downtown Development Authority Trustees*

Dan Bender, Chairman  
Eric Swanson, Vice Chair  
Andy Crispigna, Treasurer  
Mark Ammel, Trustee  
Peggy Berg, Trustee

Patrick Jordan, Trustee  
Marc Tall, Trustee  
Curt Spaulding, Trustee  
Patricia Baribeau, Trustee

**Administration**  
**Edward Legault**  
Judy Schroeder

Escanaba City Hall Council Chambers, 410 Ludington Street, Escanaba, Michigan

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**ESCANABA DDA**  
**CITY OF ESCANABA, MI**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**June 27, 2019**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bender at City Hall, 410 Ludington at 8:00 a.m.

**Roll Call:**

Chairman Bender, Trustees Tall, Ammel, Baribeau, Jordan, Spaulding, Berg and Treasurer Crispigna.

Also Present: Kelly Vanginhoven, Sue Parker

Absent: Vice Chair Swanson, excused.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO MINUTES**

***Trustee Ammel moved to approve the minutes of May 23, 2019, 2nd by Treasurer Crispigna. Motion Carried.***

**APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

***Motion to approve the agenda by Treasurer Crispigna, 2nd by Trustee Tall. Motion Carried.***

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** - Treasurer Crispigna will abstain from NB-1 as a member of the Downtown Partners in Business.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Payables as usual, Fund Balance at \$338,706.26.

***Treasurer's report approved by Trustee Ammel, 2nd by Trustee Tall. Motion carried.***

**Public Hearing:** None

### **OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **1. Sponsorship request from the Downtown Partners in Business:**

The DDA Administration received a sponsorship request from the Downtown Partners in Business to support advertising for Sidewalk Sales on Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$1500. This requested amount is the same as last year's request.

***A motion was made by Trustee Jordan to grant the request for \$1500 to the Downtown Partners in Business, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Ammel. Motion carried.***

DDA Administration recommends that in the future any event for which a sponsorship is requested of the DDA Administration will seek the advertising in lieu of granting money.

#### **2. City of Escanaba's intent to redraw the DDA footprint:**

The DDA Administration will lead a discussion regarding the City Council Actions from the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting that will impact the DDA footprint. The activities are intended to carve the DDA out of any new property taxes that would be generated by the proposed development on the old jail and city water front properties.

After much discussion the board expressed their disappointment in the City Council's actions regarding the subject of redrawing the DDA footprint and the manner that it was placed on the council agenda. The Board was also disappointed in the lack of any meaningful conversation regarding this issue prior to being placed on the Council's agenda.

***A motion was made by Trustee Ammel to make a recommendation to Council to form a committee to seek further information regarding the redrawing of the DDA footprint and tax advantages versus disadvantages. The committee is to consist of 2 DDA members, 2 private citizens and 2 Planning Commissioners. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Treasurer Crispigna. Roll call vote: 6 ayes and 2 nays. Motion Carried.***

#### **PROJECT UPDATES:**

- **2017- 2018 Façade Projects** – Lisa Wrate did a walk through with many of the sub-contractors so they could review the buildings and be able to give a better proposal of costs to the main contractor. The bids are continuing to be negotiated. Once the bids are tried up they will be reviewed with the building owners and accepted bids can be shared with the MEDC. Looks like the first part of July we will be working with Peter Van Steen on the application.
- **“Lunch on Ludington” Concert Series** – The first two events have taken place and have been well run and the music was very good. I am anxious to see the turnout as we start to see warmer weather. The Wednesday events take place starting at 11:30 am to 1:30 p.m. The musicians are sponsored by “Blues for a Cause”.
- **Escanaba Farmer’s Market** – DDA Administration has seen the Market increase in vendors the last session. The cold weather has hampered produce being brought to the market. The vendors that have been coming have been selling out of product.
- **Waterfront Development Site & RFQ** – The group is having discussions with a developer on the project. Joint work on a project agreement has been positive.
- **UP History Conference** – The event will take place on Friday June 28 to Sunday June 30. The DDA has allowed the organization to utilize the Market Place for a picnic on Friday in exchange for sponsorship. The picnic will start at 6:00 pm, with music starting at 7:00 pm. We will set up the seating for 200.

#### **VARIOUS OTHER ISSUES:**

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** Kelly Vangenhoven of 807 Ludington St. expressed her concerns regarding the Downtown Partners and would like the organization to be more transparent.

**BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Respectfully Submitted,

Den Bender, Chairman

The Escanaba Downtown Development Authority will provide all necessary, reasonable aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon five days' notice to the Downtown Development Authority. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Downtown Development Authority by writing or calling (906) 789-8696 or [escanabadda@att.net](mailto:escanabadda@att.net).