DOWNTOWN LUDINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING –June 9, 2008

Mayor John Henderson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in the City Municipal Building Community Room.

(Circle or highlight those present)
Members present: Gail Lyons, Wayne Brown, Terry Murphy, Kathy Maclean, Darla Keillor, Chris Pontz, Aleksy Urick, Jim Lindsey, Les Johnson and Nick Tykoski. Also present were City Manager John Shay, Planning Commission Representative Kaye Holman, Community Development Director Heather L.V. Loney, MCGA Director Julie VanDyke.

Absent: Sara Kroelein CVB Director, Becca Martin, Director Chamber of Commerce.

Approval of Agenda
Moved by Brown, seconded by Payment to approve the agenda and minutes. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes
Moved by Pontz, seconded by Thomas to approve the agenda and minutes. Motion carried

Public Comments
Dave Stratton addressed the board about starting a Farmers Market near the Best Choice Market. Discussion was had over the zooming regulations for the CBD. Holman stated that they would look into the issue.

Financial Report
Maclean stated that the extra expenses this month were from the additional plantings on N James Street, the City Sign and the Lighthouse for the Sign.

Committee Reports

A. Business Recruiting/Retention/Marketing

Maclean reported that the committee has been planting flowers for the sign and N James street and purchased the lighthouse for next to the sign.

B. Special Events/Promotions/Activities

Lyons reported that the committee met Friday to discuss the flyer for Sidewalk sales. They also discussed publicity for events and wording for the flyer.

C. Building and Grounds

Pontz deferred to the mayor. Mayor Henderson reported on the walk through of downtown Ludington. Holman has the report and things will be forwarded to the appropriate departments. Mayor Henderson also reported that the flower baskets have been fixed also the cords for the Christmas lights will be addressed.

Pontz reported that Turf care has been spraying the tree wells.

D. Friday Night Live/Christmas Parade

Payment reported that Friday Night Live planning is going well. The music for FNL is booked and advertising will begin the week of July 4th. The Mayor reported that any extra bands will go

in the N James Street Area.

E. Communications

Murphy reported that the google group has 40 members. Information on the Flowers Wars has been posted as well as an update on the N James Street Plaza approval. Murphy also gave a recap on the art group meeting.

Ex-Officio Reports

City Manager Report

-Shay updated on the MDOT boulevard situation. It will not be completed at this time.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Maclean reported that Lakestride is this weekend and Macker is the 28 & 29 of June. There will be a 50/50 free throw contest downtown sponsored by Sportsman's to bring the Macker activities to Downtown.

Planning Commission

Tom Coleman reported on projects the planning committee is trying to do to get citizens involved. They will be doing a community report and will give a copy to the Downtown Board. Coleman addresses the Farmers market issue and stated that it is addressed in the City Code and they would have to take a look at it. Vendors are addresses in the comprehensive plan.

Convention and Visitors Bureau

Maclean reported that the Visitor Center is open the same hours as the Artists Market. It is manned by volunteers. Hospitality training and Customer Service Seminar will be on the 19th at 7:30pm.

Mason County Growth Alliance

Van Dyke reported that 5 people signed up for the Starting Block business training. VanDyke will pass along those names to Ron & will look into possibly doing a fall class.

Old Business:

- A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Pontz to hold a special meeting to vote on the TIF plan. Motion carried.
- No update was available concerning the parking issue of the east 100 block of Ludington Avenue.

New Business:

The Committee discussed the possibility of a farmers Market at Best Choice Market. Holman discussed and read the ordinance pertaining to vendors. The issue needs to be addressed with the text committee and City Council.

The new ss mini badger boat ride was brought up by Mayor Henderson. A request was made to have the Downtown Board pay for the boats and be reimbursed through advertising sales. A motion by Lindsey and second by payment was made to pay for the construction of the Badger ride. Motion carried.

Motion by Brown second by Pontz to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Henderson at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Heather L. Venzke Loney