

DOWNTOWN LUDINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING April 12, 2010

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, Julie Payment, Wayne Brown, Kathy Maclean, Barry Neal, Nick Tykoski, Carrie Kosla, Amanda St Hillare, Sara Jeruzal and Aleksy Urick. Also present were City Manager John Shay, Community Development Director Heather L. Venzke, CVB Representative Amy Seng, Chamber Director, Ludington Area Arts Center Representative Terry Murphy, Growth Alliance Director Bob Barker.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Moved by Brown, seconded by Urick to approve the agenda and the March 8, 2010 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Lars Kavalvaag interested in a dumpster location on the south side of Ludington Avenue behind Redolence and Sportsman's. With the new smoking ban many businesses are looking at making improvements to the rear entrances. Mayor Henderson referred the issue to the building and grounds committee to research options and bring it back to the committee.

Financial Report

Maclean reported that the revenue expenditure report period ending is the format that we will continue to use in the future to report out budget balances. Motion by Brown second by Kosla to accept financial report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

A. Business Recruiting/Retention/Marketing/Communications

Neal reviewed the new Downtown Ludington club. Participation is being accepted for prizes. The idea is to get emails and generate an email list to communicate with those interested in downtown Ludington. Payment reported that a YouTube video option is available for businesses to promote on the downtown web site. Neal reported that the goal is to market the community and each other. www.downtownludington.org.

Neal also reported that the committee is working on a first sailing event with the badger. Friday morning will be more pomp and circumstance, Saturday will be a community concert, free food, baby badger rides to welcome the badger back into port. Anyone is welcome to join in.

B. Special Events/Promotions/Activities

Gail reported that the flower baskets were growing and movies in then park is underway.

C. Building and Grounds

St Hillare parking results were distributed last month.

Marilyn Cunic, two hour parking on then street is essential and as a restaurant it is necessary for those to turn. Gaming store next door is parking for longer than two hours. Also residential base needs parking. Need designated spots as a tenant of Downtown. Signage label public parking for visitors son they know in a positive way where to park. St. Hillare noted that continuation of the signage will help denote where to park. St Hillare noted that as we continue to encourage

residents downtown we need to account for that parking.

Discussion was held on where residents can park, Mayor Henderson stated that we need to address the issue and figure out a solution as more people move downtown. We need to take time to understand the issue. Barnett noted that this committee needs to decide what the priority is whether it is customer, owner or tenants. St Hillare noted that the survey results showed that most thought that the times were appropriate for the parking. Now enforcement is the question. Shay noted that there were many comments about dedicated parking for tenants. Neal noted that in Holland and some other areas, property is purchased as things go out and parking is created in empty lots or tearing down obsolete buildings. We need a plan or to plan for the future. Creation may not be convenient as noted by St Hillare. Cunic would like enforcement for current time limits. Suggestion was to have one spot per apartment close to each units, other cars could park further away. Possible permit parking idea was proposed. Barnett proposed ideas for tenant parking in the area.

D. Friday Night Live/Christmas Parade

Henderson reported that if anyone knows if entertainment, particularly local, send them our way. Reservations are beginning to be taken for no profits as well. Henderson also reported that we are taking reservations for the baby badger. 108 threads, sportsmanship, house of flavors all would like boats.

Ex-Officio Reports

City Manager Report

A meeting will be scheduled in late may with the wind farm developers and then city council. It will be an informational meeting. Council would like to hear local residents input. No action will be taken. Second meeting in May. The lot splitting ordinance will also be heard at the city council. Brown commented that a meeting on the wind farm will be good to dispel any false ideas about the project. Shay reported that there are more comments from the Pentwater area. That is where the most visual impact will be. Ultimately the state has the final say. The council would like to hear more from their constituents.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Maclean reported Wednesday at 6:30pm a film hard times hard choices will be shown. Saturday the 24th is the chambers annual dinner at Lincoln hills. 28th is business after hours at harbor view sponsored by mansions.

Planning Commission

No Report

Convention and Visitors Bureau

Seng reported that the Annual membership meeting will be Thursday April 22nd at the center for the arts at 1pm. The CVB is also working on a cultural development plan. Downtown visitor center will be opening on May 8. After badger first sailing the center will be open full time. Shifts are available for volunteers, training will be April 27th.

Growth Alliance

Bob barker reported that he is working on a industrial facilities exemption. Also learning more about renewable energy studying and researching ways to improve the county.

Arts Council

West Shore College is having a lot of their events at the center because of renovations. The gift shop will be open the first of June. The Arts Council is partnering this Saturday with Sandcastles, the library and Affew for an earth day celebration.

Sandcastles will be opening on the 20th of May for a sneak preview.

Old Business:

- none

New Business: none

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

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Henderson at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Heather L. Venzke