

DOWNTOWN LUDINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING May 10, 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, Carrie Kosla, Amanda St Hillare, Sara Jeruzal and Aleksy Urick. Also present were City Manager John Shay, Community Development Director Heather L. Venzke, Chamber Director, Ludington Area Arts Center Representative Terry Murphy, and Police Chief Mark Barnett.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Moved by Lyons, seconded by Neal to approve the agenda and the April 12, 2010 minutes as presented. Motion carried

Public Comments

Margie Hankwitz addressed the board concerning the LASD Cardboard Recycling Fund Raiser. Margie encouraged anyone wishing to participate to drop off the cardboard. All of the money goes to the school to replace lost funding. They are also looking for volunteers to volunteer once a month.

Financial Report

Maclean presented the April financial reports. Motion by Johnson second by St Hillare to accept financial report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

A. Business Recruiting/Retention/Marketing/Communications

Neal reported that 100 names have been registered through the I Love Downtown Ludington campaign on the web site. The committee is having a meeting on Friday to finalize the details of the carferry festival and first weekend of sailing activities.

B. Special Events/Promotions/Activities

Gail reported that the Movie in the Park for this year will be Planet 51, How to Train a Dragon, Up, and Alice in Wonderland. Lyons also reported that the flowers will be up soon.

C. Building and Grounds

St Hillare handed out the estimate for continuation of the signage project for Downtown Wayfinding signs. 4 additional requests were faxed to other companies in addition to the one received from Tye's Inc. Tye's Inc was the only estimate received. The project is being done in phases.

A Motion was made by Brown and seconded by Johnson to approve the estimate from Tye's Inc for the current phase.

A motion was made by Brown and seconded by Neal to approve Tye's Inc as the vendor for the remainder of the signage project for Downtown signage.

St Hillare distributed the parking recommendations, proposed and current maps of Downtown parking, resident parking designations and sticker idea proposals for changes to the Downtown Parking.

Chief Mark Barnett gave an overview of the map for clarification, and clarified what was owned by the Community Church.

Discussion was held concerning the adjustments, specifically those suggestions to change the north east portion of on street parking on N Rath Avenue from 8 hour to 2 hour. Representative Paul Cooper and Duane Cooper spoke on behalf of Harrington Tool on the issue. They expressed ideas against the suggested change and would like to see the area remain 8 hour.

Johnson stated that he had spoken to Fred Harrington and that he had no problem with a change on the east side to 2 hour parking.

Johnson presented the committee with an estimate from Evergreen to continue the ben and trash can replacement for Downtown Ludington. Johnson stated that the price was the same as last year.

Motion by St Hillare second by Neal to accept the estimate. Motion Carried.

D. Friday Night Live/Christmas Parade

Payment reported that the Friday Night Live committee is in the planning process.

Ex-Officio Reports

City Manager Report

Shay stated that the S William street reconstruction is underway and should last a couple weeks. The Windfarm meeting with the developers has been moved to June 14.

Chamber of Commerce Report & Convention and Visitors Bureau

Maclean reported Wednesday May 26th Business After Hours will be at Luciano's. The visitor Center downtown is now open on weekends and will be open 7 days a week beginning Memorial weekend.

Planning Commission

Pontz reported that the planning commission is currently looking at residential units above retail and that that is important to the vitality of Downtown. Pontz stated that he agreed with the sticker suggestion for resident parking.

Growth Alliance

No report.

Arts Council

Murphy reported that \$2300 was raised during the Art Centers yard sale. Murphy also reported that the new theatre group, Lakeside Civic Players, will be having their first production on May 21 & 22. The West Shore Art League show will run May 26 through June 1.

Old Business:

- Venzke reported that Ivran will be starting the Downtown maintenance for 2010 on May 17.
- An update on the Make it Mason County program and reminder to sign up if interested.
- An update on the Façade and Rental Rehab projects fro Downtown was given.

New Business:

- A request was made by Larry Engal owner of Bud's Tap Room to use one of the old benches and trash cans from Downtown. A motion was made by Johnson and seconded by St Hillare to allow use of one bench and trash can. Motion carried.
- A request was made to use some of the façade money to conduct a low-moderate income survey in conjunction with R-Cap to potentially remove job creation from some of our Downtown grant programs. A motion was made by Payment and seconded by Brown to use the remainder of the money budgeted to conduct the survey.

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

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Henderson at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Heather L. Venzke