

DDA Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2019
6:05-7:05 p.m.

Call to order –6:07p.m.

Roll Call

In Attendance:

Joan Bittner
Lawrence Ingram
Zlatan Sadikovic
Mark Hausner
John Grossi
Colleen Robar
Mayor Majewski (via Telephone)
Vincent Szymborski
Dr. Shamiran Golani

Excused Absence:

Kelli Kavanaugh
Andy Dow

City Administration:

Grace Stamper
Casey Copp
August Gitschlag

Guests:

Cindy Cervenak
Robert Zwolak
Konrad Maziarz
Shannon Lowell
Jeremy Duncan

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment & Introduction of Public (two minutes limited to DDA issues)

August Gitschlag—wanted to bring the condition of some of the planter boxes along Joseph Campau to the DDA’s attention. Weed were growing. According to Mr. Gitschlag, the boxes

were installed by the DDA many years ago. His comments were directed towards some type of remediation to the weed issue. It was pointed out the paid summer interns are working on the weeds within the boxes. The DDA also pointed out that they are looking at options to remediate the issue. This included the installation of artwork, which after weighing all considerations, was determined not to proceed.

Robert Zwolak—commented that upcoming street construction will be disruptive to businesses. He asked that providing detour routes and communication will help businesses and the citizens better prepare for these events.

Cindy Cervenak – Discussed the creation of business accelerators. She saw these while in Findley Ohio and thought they could be used within Hamtramck. Upon review after the meeting, the website <https://findlaylaunch.org/> contains the information on the program.

Approval of Agenda – Addition or Deletion Items

Motion made to add two agenda items: #11 Information – Presentation by Good Done Daily and #12 Visit Detroit. With the addition of items #11 and #12 a motion was made by Mark Hausner, seconded by John Grossi to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the June 19, 2019 minutes. They had been updated since they were sent out via email, but the printed copy was correct. Motion to approve by Zlatan Sadikovic, seconded by Lawrence Ingram to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial Statements for the ending fiscal year end 6/30/2019 were presented by Lawrence Ingram. Revenues were \$48,264.53 and expenses were \$41,524.18. The net of revenue and expenses were a positive \$6,740.35 for the year.

SECTION I: AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion/Action/Information

1. Discussion – Planter Box Update:

Zlatan Sadikovic discussed the recent effort whereby he bought flowers for the planter boxes for \$300 (DDA to reimburse) and will pay the business owners \$100 if the flowers remain maintained. So far 8 businesses have participated with 2 more slated to do so.

2. Discussion Labor Day Festival-Shannon Lowell and Konrad Maziarz discussed with the Board their plans for the upcoming Labor Day Festival.
 - a. This will be the 40th anniversary for the festival.
 - b. They expect more rides this year and are working with a new booking agent. They further discussed a shuttle between the Festival area and Veterans Park. There is a DCFC Game Saturday night during the Festival. This will add several thousand visitors to the Festival. The overall budget for marketing for the festival is \$5,000.
 - c. The DDA advanced a motion to contribute up to \$10,000 for the cost of additional police protection as provided by the City of Hamtramck. This is consistent with prior year expenditures. The Motion was made by Joan Bittner, seconded by John Grossi. All in favor, motion passed.
3. Discussion – appearance of the DDA District.
 - a. This was partially covered in earlier discussions however the concern was over lack of code enforcement officers. August Gitschlag reported that the City currently has 3 with 2 more slated to be hired.
 - b. The DDA decided it would pick a time to walk the DDA district to view the conditions and issues up front and personal. Mr. Szymborski will e mail the Board to set up a time for this walk.
4. Discussion – Communications Plan status—Colleen Robar indicated the database will be complete by the end of July.
5. Discussion Marketing Committee—Joan Bittner indicated the committee had not recently met.
6. Discussion – next Merchants Meeting—The Board discussed a mid-September date after the festival. The suggested site were the Historical Museum or the Ukrainian American Archives and Museum. Both venues will be researched.
7. Discussion MOGO Bikes—Mr. Szymborski reminded the Board that the DDA has a \$10,000 obligation to fund the MOGO Bike project. This stems from the participation in the Paczcki Day run.
8. Information – sidewalk Sale Policy – August Gitschlag presented a new sidewalk sale policy for review by the Board. The Board reviewed, and presented questions but ultimately supported the policy without a formal vote. Mr. Gitschlag will be mailing out the policy and will inform the Board of such action.
9. Information – Music in the Park. Casey Copp indicated that last event was attended by about 30 people. The next event will be 7/25 and Danny D will be the featured musician. Casey will get the flyer to the Board for further distribution.
10. Information – Parking Pilot Demo – Grace Stamper indicated a new meter program is being tested. The demo is scheduled for 7/18/2019 at 11:00 am. The pilot will last 2 weeks.
11. Information – Good Done Daily. Andy Kopietz presented on behalf of his firm They are a new business to the City of Hamtramck. He is interested in either joining a Committee or the formal Board. We will contact the Mayor for that purpose. Their website is <https://gooddonedaily.com>
12. Discussion – Visit Detroit – Joan Bittner presented the opportunity to place an ad in the Visit Detroit Magazine. The timing for this placement was short to get any creative together,

however the Board is interested in participating in a future issue. No motion was made to participate in this quarter's issue.

Member Report

John Grossi briefly discussed the Mural program. He indicated that we need a communication piece and plan for action.

Mark Hausner discussed raising the sign grant program from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and cap the annual participants to 5-6 per year.

Motion for adjournment by Mark Hausner, seconded by John Grossi at 7:30. All in favor, motion passed.