



DDA Board of Directors  
Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline Street  
Third Floor Conference Room  
Regular Meeting  
February 19, 2020 6:05-7:05 p.m.

---

### MISSION STATEMENT

“The Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority supports people, projects and partnerships which further the economic growth and stability of a thriving Hamtramck.”

---

1. Call to order (6:25)

2. Roll call

*Present: Andrew Dow, Lawrence Ingram, Dr. Shamiran Golani, Joan Bittner, Mayor Majewski, Zlatan Sadikovic, John Grossi, Staff: Casey Copp*

*Absent: Mark J. Hausner, Vincent Szymborski (via phone), Andrew Kopeitz, Milo Madole*

3. Pledge of allegiance to the Flag

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

*a. Bob Zwolak: Zwolak tells the Board he's been attending DDA meetings consistently for ten years. He reminds the Board they have \$150,000 in reserve funds and they need to spend it. He asks them to do something with it, like advertising. He wraps up by hoping the Board fills vacancies on the Board with more diversity that reflects the community.*

5. Approval of Agenda – Add or Delete Items

*a. Dow motions to approve the agenda. Golani seconds. All vote in favor.*

6. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes – January 15th, 2019

*a. Dow motions to approve the minutes. Majewski seconds. All vote in favor.*

7. Treasurer's Report

- Financial Statements – Current Activity Reports through January 31, 2019

*a. Ingram reads through the financial statements. Golani asks how much the DDA is paying the new manager, Szymborski replies that 20% of their salary is paid by the DDA and their salary is \$53,000 plus benefits.*

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

1. Discussion – Sidewalk Snow Removal
  - a. *Bob Straske explains the three instances he and his crew cleaned the sidewalk from snowfall. He did not have an invoice for the DDA because his accountant was out of town to calculate it. He estimates the combined cost to be no more than \$10,000. The Board resoundingly praises the work of Straske and applauds how nice it was to have shoveled sidewalks. Grossi suggests entering into a contract with Straske that extends his work for next winter as well. Szymborski suggests only continuing the work for the remainder of the current winter season.*
  - b. *Dow motions to extend Straske’s sidewalk snow removal contract for the remainder of the winter season. Grossi seconds. All approve.*
2. Discussion – DDA Manager Update
  - a. *Szymborski explains that a new manager was both hired and accepted. His name is Alex Iseri and Iseri will begin his employment next week. Szymborski suggests that someone else be named the official liaison for the DDA because he’s too often out of town. Grossi volunteers to be the liaison.*
  - b. *Dow motions to make Grossi the official liaison of the Board for the new DDA manager. Golani seconds. All approve.*
3. Discussion - New Board Member Application- Inez Garfield
  - a. *Inez Garfield introduces herself as someone who cares about the small business community of Hamtramck. She owns several properties on Joseph Campau. Garfield frequently was involved in DDA activities a decade ago, but only recently has found the time to get involved again. Majewski thanks Garfield for applying and says she will consult the fellow Board members on her application.*
4. Discussion – Music in the Park
  - a. *Copp explains it’s time for the DDA to consider their annual funding of Music in the Park, \$2000, to pay for artists and potentially other expenses. Sadikovic questions why the DDA funds something that has no benefit to the downtown district. The other Board members agree. Copp explains it’s difficult to find somewhere in the DDA district to hold this kind of event, but suggests it could be a possibility at Veterans Park or Pope Park if the road gets closed off.*
  - b. *Grossi motions to approve \$2000 for the funding of Music in the Park on the condition that at least one of the events happens in the downtown district. Sadikovic seconds. All approve.*
5. Discussion – Sign Grant Program
  - a. *Copp explains the sign grant application has been updated to look cleaner and raised the matching funds from the DDA to up to \$1000. Dow motions to approve the updated sign grant, Bittner seconds. All approve.*
6. Discussion- America In Bloom
  - a. *Copp informs the DDA that the City of Hamtramck received a grant from America in Bloom. The trees will be planted in the side streets leading up to Joseph Campau if the DDA supports the project.*
7. Discussion – Goal Orientation
  - a. *Szymborski asks the Board, in order to inform the new DDA Manager, to email Copp with a list of their 3 top priorities they want to see accomplished. Copp will compile the list for the new manager.*

## SECTION II: OTHER ITEMS

1. Chairman’s Report
  - a. *Szymborski calls upon the Board to come volunteer at the Paczki Run because as many helping hands as can be assembled will be needed to distribute paczki.*
2. Members’ Report

## ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2)(3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to individuals with disabilities at the

Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 days notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at (313) 870-0343.