



DDA Board of Directors
Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline Street
Second Floor Council Chambers
Regular Meeting
September 18, 2019 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 (6:09 PM ET)
2. Roll call
 - Present: Andrew Dow, Mark J. Hausner, Dr. Shamiran Golani, Joan Bittner, Mayor Majewski, Zlatan Sadikovic, Andrew Kopietz Staff: Casey Copp
 - Absent: Lawrence Ingram, Vincent Szymborski, Kelli Kavanaugh, John Grossi
3. Pledge of allegiance to the Flag
4. Public Comment & Introduction of Public (two minutes limited to DDA issues)
 - a. *Robert Zwolak: Zwolak shares information about the Target Market Analysis. He says that apartments on Jos. Campau need to be fixed up. Zwolak asks for the census to be taken seriously and done well so the City can maximize its finances. Lastly, Zwolak asks the Board to release the database of the business district done by Colleen Robar so the information can be publicized.*
5. Approval of Agenda – Add or Delete Items
6. Approval of Minutes - Minutes – August 21, 2019
 - a. *Hausner requests the deletion of the typo that says he was absent at last month’s meeting.*
 - b. *Golani motions to approve. Mayor Majewski seconds. All vote in favor.*
7. Treasurer’s Report - Financial Statements – Current Activity Reports through December 31, 2019
 - a. *The Board tables this discussion until the following meeting due to the absence of Ingram.*

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

1. Presentation- Joe Louis Greenway (Christina Peltier, City of Detroit)
 - a. *Christina Peltier, Project Manager for the City of Detroit’s Joe Louis Greenway: Peltier wants to engage all communities on the development of the Joe Louis Greenway. The Greenway is an almost 40 mile planned biking/walking bath throughout neighborhoods across Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park, and Dearborn. She explains the framework for the*

project in that it's more than just a bike path but a way to have family friendly and safe revitalization of blighted areas. There has been a full year of planning to encourage residents to come to community events. Peltier invites the Board members to attend the event at 2nd Ebenezer Church on September 19th. She laments the lack of success reaching the Arab and Bengali communities in Detroit/Hamtramck and asks for assistance in that outreach. Peltier shares examples of how other cities have used their alleys to promote green pathways such as Toronto's graffiti alley, the Green garage Alley in Detroit, and the Belt in Detroit. Peltier explains that using the alleyway can be an economic boom. For safety, it's important to include traffic controls such as speed bumps and signage to warn drivers about the pedestrian traffic. Lastly, Peltier shows drone footage of the proposed Greenway route in Hamtramck.

b. The question and answer period opens. Mayor Majewski explains that visibility of pedestrians walking through the alleyway poses problems but emphasizes that its addressable. Bittner says there could be a parking problem with using the alleyway. Dow mentions that using the alley on the opposite side of Jos. Campau (the east side) has fewer side streets to cross through, but Peltier says that residents don't want that because there are more garages on that side.

c. Mayor Majewski explains this Greenway is something the City wants, and we need to enhance our alleys. The City has missed opportunities like this before but a project like this can jump start alley revitalization.

d. Bittner asks if there will be parking restrictions. Peliter says there will be no restrictions and emphasizes she is here to understand business owners' concerns regarding the alley usage.

e. When asked about other alley usage for the Greenway in Detroit, Peltier says in Southwest Detroit, residents wanted the Greenway to go along alleys along Vernor but the project's route got changed.

f. Copp emphasizes that alleys are assets and need to be improved and used for activities such as this Greenway.

g. Mayor Majewski asks about how the City pays for this project and Peltier says we'll rely on private funding.

h. Peltier emphasizes that there will be no restrictions on who can or cannot use the alley and that she's here to understand everyone's concerns and hopes to continue working with everyone. Dow tells Peltier to please bring the Greenway to Hamtramck.

2. Discussion- Merchants Meeting (Elise Gallant, Bon Bon Bon)

a. Elise Gallant, Retail and Manufacturing Manager at Bon Bon Bon: Gallant explains her role at Bon Bon Bon and how the chocolatier store wants to engage the community. She is here to pitch the idea of hosting a merchants meeting at Bon Bon Bon because of the desire to work with more business owners in the City. The meeting can take place in their production area and engage in discussions on the central business district's markets. She says that employees of Bon Bon Bon are heavily invested in the City of Hamtramck

b. The Board discusses the best time and date to have the meeting and asks Christina Peltier to be a guest speaker at this merchants meeting.

c. Dow motions to approve a merchants meeting to take place from 6:30 – 9 PM on Thursday, November 7th at Bon Bon Bon. The Board has a budget up to \$500 to put on this event. Golani seconds. All approve.

3. Discussion- Litter Maintenance in DDA District (Sadikovic)

a. Copp says he was not able to find estimates for any local companies to do sidewalk cleaning. Sadikovic hopes to work with the City and their workers to add cleaning onto their routines.

4. Discussion – DDA Budget

a. The Board tables this discussion for next month's meeting.

5. Discussion – Marketing Committee Report

- a. *Kopeitz explains details of a very detailed report on potential marketing strategies for the DDA to follow up on. He did extensive research and was able to reactivate the old DDA website, get the credentials for them, and the website is now live.*
- b. *Bittner says the DDA must purchase the domain name for the 8 Days in Hamtramck.*
- c. *Golani says that its our property and we must own everything including Robar's new database. Bittner adds that there is value in sharing the database publicly.*
- d. *Kopeitz says, based on his research, that Robar's specialty is public relations and not websites.*
- e. *Copp shares the advice of the MEDC that best practices for marketing is the DDA to combine their website with the City. Kopeitz says he has concerns regarding IT Right.*
- f. *Bittner motions to approve purchase of 8 Days of Hamtramck domain name. Dow seconds. All in favor.*

6. Discussion – Mural Committee Report

- a. *Kopeitz shares information about the meeting he and Grossi had with a mural expert but she wants a contract to consult and they're waiting to hear a price from her.*

SECTION II: OTHER ITEMS

1. Chairman's Report

- a. *Bittner thanks Golani for bringing watermelon.*
- b. *Mayor Majewski says there's graffiti on the wall of her business so she will be covering it up with a brand new mural.*

2. Members' Report

ADJOURNMENT (7:41)

- a. *Bittner motions to adjourn. Golani seconds. All approve.*

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.