

Village of Bellaire

Downtown Development Authority

Louise Wenzel, Chairperson
Don Hoyt, Secretary

Downtown Development Authority Minutes

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairperson, Wenzel called the meeting to order at 9:02.
- II. **Attendance**
 - Members Present:** Don Hoyt, Dan Bennet, Joe Short, Louise Wenzel, Doreen McGuire, Tracy Lareau, Dave Gajda
 - Members Absent** – Don Semen, Mark Irwin,
 - Public Present:** Scott Smith, Libby Hiser, Art Chester, Curtis Myers, Taylor S., Shawna M., Shelly Dayton, Abby Baker
- III. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda, with the addition of purchasing new wayfinding signs, was motioned to be approved by Gajda, seconded by Muscat and passed by unanimous vote.
- IV. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** (none provided)
- V. **Unfinished Business**
 - Village Update: Bennett provided a thorough update. The Village is considering hiring a 3rd full time police officer. Time dealing with the public has drastically increased recently. They are looking at Al Odom increasing his hours to cut all grass in the Village. They are also looking at building a membrane for the ice skating rink. Additionally, they are exploring Wi-Fi options and the highest place to put it in, and it appears it may be the Village Offices.
 - Unified Action Plan Steering Committee Update: Wenzel provided an update. There was a meeting on Monday February 22, 2021. 4 different projects have been identified: Redevelopment Ready Certification (RRC) program, public Wi-Fi, public bathrooms and public park improvements. The completion of the RRC will be coordinated through a subcommittee. Different funding options for the various projects were discussed. A second survey will be submitted to community partners to collect more detailed info on these projects. The

Committee reviewed the draft of the Unified Action Plan and hope to get info from said survey to take to Village Council and DDA board to get projects moving by June.

- Kegger Campground Update: Short provided an update. Feedback from operations committee is unanimously positive. They are planning on pulling the fire rings the first week of April. They've also received \$11,000 in wood sales.
- Board Size: Wenzel led a discussion on board size. Each board member was asked to weigh in. The group was unanimous in keeping the board size as is for now. Hoyt motioned to keep the board size as is, Lareau seconded, motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Business/Property Owner Parking – Letter: All board members were asked to provide feedback on the letter Short crafted for all downtown business owners, encouraging them to use the public parking available, leaving prime shopper spots open for customers. The group was unanimous in support of sending the letter along with a map that includes public parking options. Map options will be reviewed by Wenzel and submitted to the Board for review.

VI. New Business

- History of Hometown Heroes Banner Program (Abby Baker): Abby Baker provided thorough details on the program. Each board member was asked for comment and/or whether they were in support. The majority of board members were in support of the project and Hometown Heroes communicating with the Village on the project.
- Friends of Glacial Hills – Letter of Support (Tim Reicha/Curtis Myers): Curtis Myers provided an update on the Glacial Hills project to connect the Glacial Hills trail system to downtown Bellaire. Gajda motioned to accept and finalize the draft letter of support to Glacial Hills. McGuire seconded. All members were in support.
- Treasurer Election: Gajda has shown interest in becoming the treasurer, but because he is currently out of the area, Wenzel and Hoyt will stay on as signers. Wenzel motioned that Gajda take the position of DDA Treasurer. Lareau seconded. All voted in support to carry the motion.
- Meeting Schedule: Lareau motioned to approve the meeting schedule for 2021. McGuire seconded. All board members voted in support.
- Board Member Terms: Wenzel provided expiration dates of new board member terms.
- DDA Boundary Expansion: Gajda would like to explore expanding the DDA boundaries to consider advantages and/or disadvantages of such project. DDA board members were in support of him pursuing.

- Wayfinding Signs: Hoyt recommended we pursue considering replacing the signs throughout the downtown area. The board was unanimous in Hoyt investigating and providing his findings to the board, along with costs.

VII. Miscellaneous Business of the Authority Board:

- Shelly agreed to ensure a Buy Local group member will be in attendance for future DDA Meeting to provide Buy Local group updates.

VIII. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: None

IX. Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned by Louise Wenzel at 10:23 am.

Meeting minutes compiled by Don Hoyt

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