

**Village of Bellaire**  
**Downtown Development Authority**  
**Minutes**  
**May 25, 2022**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair D.Hoyt called the meeting to order at 9am.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Attendance:**

Members present: Dan Bennett, Michelle Dayton, Dave Gajda, Don Hoyt, Cindi Place, Don Seman, Taylor Sutherland

Members absent: Doreen McGuire, Tracy Lareau

Public present via Zoom: Doreen McGuire, Sue Palmisano

**IV. Consent Agenda**

Motion by D.Seman to approve the consent agenda. Second, M. Dayton. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

**V. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

None

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**Buy Local Update:**

Meeting moved to next week. Flying Pig paid for the overage on expenses for FlipFops and Flamingos.

**Village Update:**

Lots of cleanup being done after the storm last Friday. The cementery has been cleaned up, there will be a few more weeks of cleanup left. The osprey nest is intact. Bathrooms are coming along; hope to be open to the public any day, just waiting for county permits. D.Bennett indicated that there were a lot of volunteers offering to help with storm cleanup. Elk Rapids sent a chipper to help with tree removal.

**Public WiFi:**

C.Place reported that she was able to get some updates regarding the broadband funds coming from the federal government through state government for broadband infrastructure work. Bellaire will be working with Antrim County to get these funds. DDA is doing what needs to be done before applying for a grant by gathering information and getting bids for broadband work downtown. D.Hoyt has set up an appointment with Charter to come to Bellaire, do a site survey and, hopefully, leave a cost estimate.

**DDA Parking Committee:**

D.Bennett, D.Hoyt, and T. Sutherland met and information shared from that meeting included:

- New and improved signage including larger fonts for parking available after hours at county building
- Possible signage at Forest Home building, back lots, by new bathrooms, Corner Bistro,, among others
- Reminding business to have employee's park in lots and not on M-88
- Speaking with Bradley re: city input and permissions needed from MDOT.
- Possible long term parking study looking at future parking lots

**Salting sidewalks:**

No updates

**DDA Budget Request Amendment:**

D.Hoyt just wanted to make it clear that the DDA will be using \$5,000 of the Rotary Charities grant to give to the Village of Bellaire to help pay for bathroom construction overages.

**Bellaire Leadersip Class Request:**

M.Dayton shared that the music department at the school is waiting for a response from Joe Short re: placing the used piano on the stage under Short's pavilion.

**VII. New Business**

**DDA eNewsletter:**

D.Hoyt suggested we consider creating a quarterly newsletter to let the community know about projects and plans that the DDA is working on. C.Place volunteered to get that started, hoping for a June 15<sup>th</sup> publication date. She will work with D.Hoyt on content.

**Downtown Lighting:**

Discussion about the possibility of stringing lights between the light posts downtown. D.Hoyt shared a picture of Grayling's downtown with similar lights. The board agreed to let D.Hoyt look into the possibility and costs.

**Downtown Music:**

Discussion about the possibility of working with Joe Short to provide some musical or artist entertainment in the pavilion during the summer. S.Dayton agreed to contact a few downtown business who might be interested in helping make this happen. The Chamber indicated that they are planning some music events in the pavilion as well. S.Palmisano will send C.Place a copy of the Chamber's music event schedule.

**Tables & Chairs:**

D.Hoyt, M.Dayton, and T.Sutherland will meet to move a couple of the tables with chairs to in front of the Frontier building. The library should take delivery in a few weeks on the solar hub table which will also be placed at the Frontier building.

**VIII. Miscellaneous Business of the Authority Board**

None.

**IX. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

**Downtown Business Concerns:**

It was brought to the attention of the DDA that there were a few business owners with concerns about the recent Shorts Anniversary Party and some actions which were promised (signs indicating downtown businesses were open during the party for example) did not happen. Businesses also have some concerns about being told they cannot leave their business doors open if located in a certain area during the event. As the Village participates in allowing the event, D.Bennett offered to collate these concerns and address them with Shorts.

**X. Adjourn:**

Motion by T.Sutherland to adjourn the meeting. Second, M.Dayton. Meeting adjourned at 10:30am. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 9am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85258682852?pwd=OS9XSWdyZE1jSm54djZNbUxYQmZUdz09>

Passcode: 788616