

Village of Bellaire
Downtown Development Authority Minutes
Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by M. Dayton at 9:03 am.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendance:

Members Present: Michael Belanger, Michelle Dayton, Don Hoyt, Doreen McGuire,

Members Absent: Dan Bennett, Margie Boyd, Jamie Creason, Dave Gajda, Adrienne Wolff

Zoom: Dan Bennett, Dave Gajda, Tom Shilts, Adrienne Wolff

Public Present: Angela St. Pierre, Janet Koch

Consent Agenda:

Due to lack of quorum, Consent Agenda was not approved.

Public Comment on Agenda:

Angela St. Pierre, Village Clerk stated ASI has donated a color printer to the Village. The Village has offered the printer to the DDA for their use. Details will be determined at the next meeting due to lack of quorum.

Unfinished Business:

Buy Local Update

M. Dayton reported. December sales are down a bit. Weather has been a factor. Still working on winter themed ideas. Facebook is down 14% and Instagram is up 27%. Suggested that next year on the soup cook-off tickets that reverse side might offer special discounts at local businesses.

Village Update

A. St. Pierre provided the following update. Village Council welcomed new member, Andrew Turner, Bryan Hardy is the new Village President Pro Tem. There is an open seat on the Planning Commission.

Grants Committee

D. McGuire provided the following update. *Abstract Feelings Sculptures* exhibit created by the students will be on display at the high school until Christmas.

Thank you notes will go out to the businesses to thank them for their support of the *Unique Art of Antrim County* exhibition. The grant budget balances and all bills have been paid.

Marketing & Communication

DDA Logo/Design Quote - two quotes were received, due to lack of quorum, tabled until January meeting.

Marketing Video - No new updates.

Map Update for Restroom Pavilion -Tabled to future 2025 meeting.

Banner Program

D. McGuire provided the following update. No submissions have been received. After the first of the year we will be reaching out to our contact lists. D. McGuire will provide sample wording for the emails along with attachments of the application process and flyer. An ad will also be considered.

Parking Committee

D. Hoyt stated that more permanent parking signs would be helpful. He also suggested that an “unofficial” parking study be conducted with the downtown restaurants and businesses. Discussion in greater detail will take place at next month’s meeting.

DDA Budget 2025

The proposed DDA budget will be on the Village Council February 2025 agenda.

Tables and Chairs

Thank you to all who helped. It was suggested that next year we might consider enhancing the seating areas with lights and banners.

New Business:

New DDA Board Member

An application was included in the board packet for distribution to anyone who might be interested in the open board seat. Last date to apply is January 22, 2025.

Miscellaneous Business of the Authority Board:

D. Hoyt stated that Bellaire Schools has hired a new superintendent.

Corner Bistro is open. No new updates on Bellaire Bar.

D. Gajda last DDA meeting will be January.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

J. Koch, Deputy County Administrator distributed the monthly Antrim County newsletter. Mentioned that the County elevators will be down for three weeks in January. New County Clerk will start in January. The County is reviewing option #5 regarding the Public Safety Center. COA will be expanding their facility.

Adjourn:

Meeting ended at 9:46 am.

Approved: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Minutes compiled by: D. McGuire