

DRAFT
Village of Bellaire
Downtown Development Authority Minutes
Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by M. Dayton at 8:59 am.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Attendance:

Members Present: Dan Bennett, Michael Belanger, Michelle Dayton, Dave Gajda
Doreen McGuire, Cindi Place

Members Absent: Don Hoyt

Public Present: Jean Bedell, Janet Koch and the 5 DDA applicants

Zoom Attendees: None

Consent Agenda:

Motion by C. Place to approve the Consent Agenda. Second, D.
Bennett. Motion approved.

Public Comment on Agenda:

None

Unfinished Business:

Interviews Conducted Open DDA Board Seats

The five candidates were interviewed for the two current open Board seats plus the seat that will be vacant at the end of April. C. Place will be leaving the Board after the April 24, 2024 meeting. Each Board member had the opportunity to ask questions. Upon completion of the interviews the candidates were given the opportunity to remain during the voting. At the end of the vote count the following candidates were selected: Jamie Creason, Margie Boyd and Adrienne Wolff. Candidates will now be recommended to the Village Council for their approval at the April 3, 2024 Village Council meeting.

Buy Local Update

M. Dayton reported that the Art is Sweet event down approximately 60 tickets. Covered the costs of design, printing and advertising. April 20th, Flip Flops and Flamingos event. The Home, Cottage and Garden Show is scheduled for May

18th. Advertising and updates will take place the first part of April to secure additional vendors. D. McGuire will work with Bradley Keiser regarding placement of vendors on Bridge Street as well as overflow on Broad Street. Short's Anni Party is scheduled for April 26 and 27 and there will be no street closures. C. Place has created a website for Buy Local, <https://buylocalbellaire.wixsite.com/buylocalbellaire>. Flower planting will take place on May 13th. This is being coordinated by Brenda Fink. Welcome pamphlets will be distributed, waiting on the map to be completed. A group of 50 ladies is expected to visit downtown to shop and dine June 10th, businesses encouraged to be open.

Village Update

D. Bennett stated that there were 12 applicants for the Village Clerk position and are in the process of hiring a new Clerk. The ball diamond is complete at Craven Park as well as the dugout. The diamond will be utilized this spring.

Public Wifi

None

DDA Parking Committee Update

None

Grants Committee Update

D. McGuire reported that the juror has selected 14 images for the upcoming "Unique Art of Antrim County" public art exhibition. Currently coordinating with James Sullivan to schedule the photographing of the images. We have received an okay to place the art at The Flying Pig, Frontier Building, Bellaire Library, Bellaire Bar and Bellaire Hardware.

Marketing and Communications Committee

The Meet and Greet is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23rd, 5-6:30 pm at The Flying Pig. C. Place is checking on notifications of Kearney Township, Antrim County and Ambulance Authority. D. McGuire will reach out to Bradley Keiser to ask that he attend and do a short presentation regarding the M-Dot Streetscape Grant as was discussed at the February DDA meeting. M. Dayton will coordinate the food for the Meet and Greet. M. Dayton will develop the agenda for the evening: Introduction of new members, M-Dot Streetscape Grant, Unique Art of Antrim County, Home, Cottage and Garden Show, Banner Program and questions from the public. It was suggested that C. Place work with M. Boyd on the upcoming DDA Newsletter as the computer program moving forward will be different.

Michigan Downtown Association

D. Gajda will contact the Michigan Downtown Association Executive Director to obtain the exact amount of the dues to be paid by the Bellaire DDA to become members. The amount is based on the DDA TIF. At the February meeting the DDA Board approved the amount up to \$500 to join the Michigan Downtown Association.

Bellaire Chamber Dues

Last year's dues were \$120.00, this year's dues are \$150 to renew our membership with the Bellaire Chamber. Renewal takes place in April.

Banner Program

The Village Council at their March meeting approved the DDA to take over the banner program. Updates will be provided at next month's meeting.

Update - Linking Art Page to Village Website

C. Place stated that the updates to the Village website were completed prior to Nicole Essad leaving. There are still a couple of items to be updated and C. Place will work with Lauren Keiser on these updates.

New Business:

The Board discussed the purchase of a laptop for DDA use. C. Place volunteered to research two possible laptops and programs that will meet the needs of the DDA. She will provide an update at the April meeting.

Miscellaneous Business of the Authority Board:

None

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

J. Koch distributed the County newsletter. She stated that an Open House will take place sometime in June and will include a ribbon cutting ceremony. There is an address change coming to the County website, www.antrimcountymi.gov. Board of Commissioners' boardroom has been relocated to Room 202 to allow for more space. Public Safety Center has not received approval by the Board of Commissioners to be added to the November ballot, possibly will be voted on at their April meeting.

Adjourn:

Motion by C. Place to adjourn. Second, M. Belanger. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 am.