



MINUTES
DDA SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
8:30 AM - Tuesday, March 8, 2022
Back Office Studio - 13 N. Washington St. / Virtual Hybrid

1. CALL TO ORDER (8:36am)

2. ROLL CALL

PATTON DOYLE (C)	P
YLONDIA PORTIS	P
KAYIA HINTON	P
ANDY FRENCH	P
DIETER OTTO	P
JEN EASTRIDGE	P
PAUL AJLOUNY	P
LOIS ALLEN RICHARDSON	A
BRANDON DENT	A
BRYAN FOLEY	A

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Dieter Otto motioned to approve the agenda. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jen Eastridge motioned to approve the February 17, 2022 minutes and Ylondia Portis supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES EACH) -none.

5. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Grants Committee Recommendations and Scoring Matrix

6.2. Aubrees

6.3. GO! Ice Cream GO!

6.4. Love at First Try

6.5. Tap Room

The Grants committee reviewed Match on Main Applications and provided a recommendation.

Patton Doyle described the Match on Main application and scoring matrix.

Dieter Otto spoke about the grants committee process.

The committee discussed the States emphasis on leveraging private investment.

The grants committee and equity ad hoc committee are looking into ways to even the field for DDA grants.

Patton Doyle suggested that the DDA should highlight businesses that will not do this project without the grant funds.

Dieter Otto stated that the State is going to do what they do, and we cannot control their process. We need to make changes on our level, but in this case we need to remain competitive because any state money coming to Ypsilanti is good for all of Ypsilanti.

Ylondia Portis suggested videos or workshops to help businesses that need help with grants.

Andy French recommended that all small businesses utilize the SBDC. They will help with grants, press releases, social media/marketing, etc. They can also help find the right business mentors.

Kayia Hinton motioned that the Ypsilanti DDA submit the top two applications, Aubrees and Go! Ice Cream to the MEDC Match on Main Program. Jen Eastridge supported the motion.

Motion passed. Yes- 6, Abstained- 1 (French)

Patton Doyle appreciates that the equity committee is looking at solutions in the local grants process.

Ylondia Portis spoke about social investors looking for projects like some of the ones we see.

7. PROPOSED BUSINESS -none.

8. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION -none.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ylondia Portis and supported by Kayia Hinton. Motion passed- unanimous.