



MINUTES
DDA BOARD MEETING
8:30 AM - Thursday, November 17, 2022
Back Office Studios - 13 N. Washington St.

1. CALL TO ORDER (8:35am)

2. ROLL CALL

PATTON DOYLE (C)	P	KAYIA HINTON	A
YLONDIA PORTIS	A	ANDY FRENCH (V)	P
DIETER OTTO	P	JEN EASTRIDGE	P
PAUL AJLOUNY	P	BRYAN FOLEY	P
MALISSA GILLETT (8:45am)	P	JOE RITCHIE	A
VALORY BROWN	P	NICOLE BROWN	P

Staff Present: Christopher Jacobs, Elize Jekabson

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Andy French motioned to approve the agenda. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Andy French motioned to approve the October 20th, 2022 and November 14th, 2022 Board Meeting minutes and Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

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

6. STAFF REPORT/FINANCIAL REPORT Staff gave updates on the check registry and the financial report. Staff spoke about notable projects and the Michigan Downtown Association conference in Muskegon that Elize attended.

Sale of College of Business has been finalized.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1. Operations and Finance Committee

Andy French recapped the operations and finance committee meeting.

An item the committee saw but did not move to the board is the Bicentennial New Years Eve social district and ball drop.

Sidewalk cafe extension was approved by the city council between the committee and board meeting.

The committee supported the extension.

The Depot town tree lighting event in the consent agenda will be funded through special events by reallocating funds from Depot Towns holiday lighting budget.

Jen Eastridge wanted to draw attention to animals used in events such as the tree lighting in Depot Town and urges organizers to reconsider the use of animals for entertainment.

7.2. Ad Hoc Committee For Equitable Investment

Staff report. Sierra from Bridge Community Cafe is joining the committee next month.

Sharonda kicked off the equity needs assessment work. A recurring theme was effective communication.

Jen Eastridge stressed for board and staff to continue documenting the work that the board does.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Annual Nomination of YDDA Officers

Motion to nominate Patton Doyle as Chair of the DDA Board by Dieter Otto. Bryan Foley supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

Motion to nominate Andy French as Vice Chair of the DDA Board by Paul Ajlouny. Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

Motion to nominate Kayia Hinton as Treasurer of the DDA Board by Dieter Otto. Valory Brown supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

8.2. DDA Board Retreat Strategic Goal Setting Results

Staff shared the goal setting results

Community health, Tif plan, Direct business support, Lighting improvements and Streetscape improvements were selected as the top priorities for the DDA.

Andy French stated that any documents need to reflect all three district needs.

Dieter Otto spoke about “environmental welcome” to Ypsilanti (*with credit to Ylondia Portis*)

8.3. Holiday Lights Express Quote

Dieter Otto motioned to recommend approval for all lamp poles at \$2,000 and \$500 for Depot Town Tree. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

8.4. DDA Support for Overnight Warming Center Revenue Sharing Agreement

The board discussed the logistics of the overnight warming shelter.

The money would come from the DDA Police Officer refund.

Motion to support the overnight warming center agreement at \$25,000 by Malissa Gillett. Supported by Bryan Foley. Motion passed- unanimous.

8.5. Downtown Budget Amendments

The mystery “public relations campaign” line item that Andy French pointed out is actually the community health line item. The City finance department determined that it was the closest title to community health. Andy French directed staff to do what they can to change it from “public relations campaign”.

RESOLVED BY THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI: That the following items be approved:

1. Resolution No. 2022-02, approving Downtown Budget Amendments to create new solar grant program at \$100,000, Community Health at \$50,000, and Special Event Contributions at \$15,000

OFFERED BY: Bryan Foley SECONDED BY: Jen Eastridge

YES: 9 NO: 0 ABSENT: 3 (Hinton, Portis, Ritchie) VOTE: Passed.

This resolution is adopted by the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority Board and approved by the chair this 17th day of November, 2022

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1. Depot Town Parking Negotiation Team

9.2. Holiday Light Purchase for Depot Town and Downtown GFCI Poles - not to exceed 1k per district

9.3. Depot Town Tree Lighting Ceremony Expenses - not to exceed \$2,600

Andy French motioned to approve the consent agenda and Malissa Gillett supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

10. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - none.

Proposed business seems to be missing from the agenda, so the chair gave time for proposed business. Bryan Foley reported to the board slanderous reporting from the publication, Ann Arbor Independent. He asked board member to reach out to him if they had any questions.

Andy French motioned to reaffirm support for Supreme Felons and their work in the district and that at no point did Supreme Felons request or receive funds from the DDA. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

Malissa Gillett spoke about branding and marketing the DDA. Staff has been taking more actions towards sharing the DDA story and is working with the Equity committee on this.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Malissa Gillett motioned to adjourn at 10:14am. Andy French supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.