



MINUTES
DDA BOARD MEETING
8:30 AM - Thursday, September 21, 2023
Back Office Studio - 13 N. Washington St.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

PATTON DOYLE (C)	P	KAYIA HINTON	A (online)
YLONDIA PORTIS	P	ANDY FRENCH (V)	P
DIETER OTTO	P	PAUL AJLOUNY	P
MALISSA GILLET	A	JOE RITCHIE	P
VALORY BROWN	P	NICOLE BROWN	A
BRIAN JONES-CHANCE	P	BRYAN FOLEY	P
GERRY KREINER	P		

Staff Present: DDA: Elize Jekabson, City: Katie Jones, Andrew Hellenga, Bonnie Wessler, Kirk Moore

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Dieter Otto motioned to approve the agenda. Brian Jones-Chance supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Andy French motioned to approve the August 17th, 2023 Board Meeting minutes and Joe supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES EACH) -

Dave Heikkennen - spoke about issues Downtown, urged the Board to rescind its support for Growing Hopes grant application.

Cheryl Farmer - spoke about issues Downtown, urged the board to rescind its support for Growing Hopes grant application.

6. STAFF REPORT/FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff provided the staff and financial report found in the packet.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1. Operations and Finance Committee

Andy French provided an update from the Operations and Finance Committee. Staff reported that the clock warranty discussed at the committee level has resolved itself.

7.2. Equity and Inclusion Committee

The committee had two meetings where they put together the framework for the grants.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Downtown Water Shut-off and Construction Relief Grant

Many applicants did not provide verified information, but staff recommends we work with those applicants to provide correct information. These could be sales tax reports or POS system // bank accounts.

Any funding not used by applicants to be used towards technical assistance.

The Board discussed Corner Health Centers eligibility as a nonprofit. The grant was designed to keep businesses from shuttering. Public record shows that Corner Health is not in danger of this.

Staff asked the board for guidance for building department compliance as a requirement. All that is necessary to become compliant while the building inspection program is on hold is to fill out an application and provide a \$90 application fee for the business license.

Andy French moved to approve the Downtown relief grant distribution as presented, and to include the business compliance as a requirement for receiving funds. Dieter Otto supported the motion. Ylondia Portis included a friendly amendment to ask Corner Health Center to withdraw their request. If they do not, they need to attend the next Board meeting. Friendly amendment accepted. Motion passed - unanimous.

8.2. N. Adams Lot Mill and Overlay

Staff presentation.

Dieter Otto motioned to approve up to \$20,000 to support the mill and overlay of the Adams Street Lot. Brian Jones-chance supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

8.3. Depot Town Plaza Gardening

Staff presentation.

Dieter Otto motioned to approve \$1500 for Depot Town Plaza Gardening. Gerry Kreiner supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

8.4. Letter of Support - YPD Substations

Andy French spoke about the Operations and Finance committee discussion to recommend a letter of support for the YPD substations.

Chief Kirk Moore spoke more about the initiative, and corrected the language used. These are not substations, there will not be more police. They are Community Policing Centers, that ultimately get current police officers out of their vehicles and into the community.

Ylondia Portis asked if the plan shows the documentation of not over-policing? She requests more information, or a plan from the YPD before she can support a letter of support.

Joe Ritchie motioned to write a letter of support for YDL's Community Policing Centers with approval from the Executive Committee if the YPD provides a plan before the next board meeting. Otherwise, it's to be brought to the next board meeting and discussed. Valory Brown supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

8.5. Marketing and Promotion Contribution Application - YpsiTasty

The board hesitated on the request. The Chamber is a membership based organization, and charged for tickets, without sharing ticket prices with participants.

Brian Jones-Chance motioned to deny this application. Andy French supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

9. PROPOSED BUSINESS

Bryan Foley proposed a presentation by Supreme Felons Inc. Wanted to clarify the mission in Downtown area so that the DDA knows what they do and who they are.

Staff is bringing back the daytime warming shelter for support.

Ylondia Portis requested a conversation on Growing Hope's letter of support take place. The DDA should be asking for copies of applications when asked for a letter of support.

Staff reminded the board that that is not regular practice, but can request these in the future. Patton Doyle read the letter of support into the record. He stated that he is not interested in burning bridges with organizations by rescinding letters.

Ylondia Portis agreed that the project based on the letter of support does align with the DDA's mission. For transparency, the DDA should acquire the letter from Growing Hope. Letters of support should be posted on the DDA website.

The board overall did not feel comfortable taking action on the letter of support until Growing Hope has had a chance to provide the application. This should be discussed at the next meeting.

Patton Doyle suggested the DDA needs to increase its policy and standards of what we support.

Ylondia Portis motioned to direct staff to reach out to Growing Hope for their grant application and plan, and review at the next meeting before deciding on further action. Brian Jones-Chance supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

10. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - none.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Joe Ritchie motioned to adjourn at 10:53am and Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.