

**ADA TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2010 MEETING**

The regular March 1, 2010 meeting of the DDA Board was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Bob Kullgren.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Bowersox, George Haga, Jim Ippel, Bob Kullgren, Devin Norman, Betsy Ratzsch, Walt VanderWulp, Ted Wright

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Korth

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Ferro, Planning Director

PUBLIC PRESENT: Bryan Harrison, Alticor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Bowersox, seconded by VanderWulp, to approve the February 1 and February 22 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion approved unanimously.

FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

Kullgren updated Board members on plans for the 2010 Farmers Market season, including change in hours to noon-6 p.m., dropping chefs demonstrations, adding local restaurant vendors selling prepared foods, expansion of the season to include a flexible range of 11 to 15 weeks, a new Children's Garden jointly sponsored by The Community and Ada Township Parks and Recreation, and a Farmers Market Supplement to be published in The Cadence on June 16.

APPROVAL OF FARMERS MARKET PARKING AGREEMENT WITH ALTICOR

Kullgren presented a proposed License Agreement with Alticor, for use of the Amway parking lot on Headley St. for Farmers Market parking. He stated that the agreement is the same agreement that was entered into last year.

Haga noted he had compared the indemnification and insurance requirements in the new agreement with last year's agreement, and they are identical.

It was moved by VanderWulp, seconded by Haga, to approve the License Agreement with Amway for use of the Headley St. parking lot for Farmers Market parking.

Motion passed unanimously.

BRONSON ST. PROJECT UPDATE

Haga and Ferro updated the Board on the Bronson St. project. It was noted that the project has been included in the proposed Township budget for FY 2010-11, and that the Township Board will be holding a public hearing on the budget on March 8.

Ratzsch stated she felt it was important for the Township Board to be aware of the historical background and justification for the project. It was suggested that the original plan from 1992 which called for Bronson St. to be part of the Village streetscape improvements be brought forward.

Ferro stated that when the Bronson St. project was presented to the Board in February, that the historical background on the project was mentioned. He added he would put together additional background

material documenting the history of the project.

Appropriate next steps for the project were discussed, assuming that the Township Board includes the project in the budget. Ferro stated that it would be important to begin engineering work on the project, in order for it to be ready for construction this year. Haga noted that discussions need to be held with the Road Commission regarding their ability to pay for the project this year.

Kullgren requested the Bronson Street project to be placed on the agenda for the April meeting of the DDA Board.

M-21 BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE

Kullgren, Haga and Ferro reported on the results of the meeting of parties interested in the M-21 bridge project that was held on February 24.

Ferro reported on contacts he has made with various consulting firms regarding a possible economic impact analysis, including their suggestions that we could conduct a reasonable analysis on our own. The consensus of the Board was that we should continue searching for potential sources of expertise in conducting an analysis, including the Village Design Charrette consultants.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

BOARD COMMENT

Kullgren reported he will not be at the April meeting, due to an unavoidable conflict. He also noted that he will not be able to serve on the Board any longer than 2 additional months beyond April.

Kullgren also suggested that the Communications/Promotions Committee, headed by Wright and VanderWulp, establish a target date of Fall, 2010 for a DDA insert in the Township newsletter, as a report to the community on the activities of the DDA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Korth, Secretary