

**ADA TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 2012 MEETING**

The meeting 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, Walt VanderWulp, Ted Wright

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryan Harrison, Tom Korth

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Ferro, Planning Director

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by consent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2012 MEETING

It was moved by Bowersox, seconded by Ippel, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2012 meeting as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

DDA FINANCIAL REPORT

Ferro presented financial reports for the DDA overall and for the Farmers Market through October 31, 2012. Ferro noted that the only activity during the month of October was within the Farmers Market, including purchase of a pallet of baskets, and a registration fee for the Market Manager's attendance at a conference in Grand Rapids.

CONCEPT PLANS FOR VILLAGE STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS

Ferro presented concept plans and cost estimates for two paved pedestrian seating spaces in the Village – one located in the public right-of-way at the corner of Ada Drive and Bronson St., adjacent to the art gallery, and the other on AT&T property adjacent to the Ada Drive sidewalk, where we have an approved license agreement from AT&T. Ferro stated both areas would have 2 benches and a trash receptacle on a brick paver surface. A bicycle rack that has been donated by ACEMCO, the company that manufactured the "Bike Petal" bicycle rack, is also proposed at the Bronson St. location. He noted that the seating area at Ada Drive and Bronson is coordinated with the recently-placed interpretive display panels installed by the Historical Society. Ferro stated the total cost estimate for both improvements is \$10,697.

In discussion, the consensus of the DDA Board was that the proposed improvements are well designed, are needed and should be included in next year's budget and in the Capital Improvements Plan. It was also suggested that donor/sponsors should be sought for the 4 benches that are included in the plans.

REVISED DRAFT OF DDA PROJECT PRIORITIES

Ferro presented a revised draft of the DDA Priorities and Strategies document that was originally adopted in December, 2010. Ferro stated that the September 24 draft reflects discussion and input from the DDA Board meeting in September. He noted that Ippel had suggested at the September meeting that consideration be given to the need for better connectivity between the Township non-motorized trail network and the Village, with specific attention given to the entry

to the Village on Fulton St. from the west, where the paved wide shoulder on Fulton that is used by bicyclists terminates abruptly near O'Brien's Market. Ferro stated another concern is the Grand River Dr. trail, which terminates at the intersection of Grand River Dr. and Fulton St., with no connection to the Village.

Ferro suggested that two additional trail segments should be planned – an extension of the Grand River Dr. trail along the north side of Fulton St. to the Bronson St./Fulton St. intersection, which has signalized crosswalks, and installation of a new trail on the south side of Fulton St., from the point where the existing wide shoulder terminates and the existing narrow sidewalk begins, extending east to the Bronson St. intersection. Ferro stated both of these trail segments would be approximately 1,300 feet in length.

The consensus of the DDA Board was that these proposed trail extensions should be referred to the Trail Committee for inclusion in the Township-wide Non-motorized Trail Plan. It was also suggested that information be provided by staff at a future meeting on the Complete Streets concept and legislation.

PROJECTS FOR INCLUSION IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN UPDATE

Ferro stated he would use input from this meeting to prepare a proposed DDA project list for inclusion in the Capital Improvements Plan update, and would present this at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Norman, seconded by Ippel, to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Korth, Secretary