

ROMEO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2021 – 7:00 PM.
ROMEO COMMUNITY CENTER
361 Morton Street, Romeo, Michigan 48065

The purpose of the Romeo Downtown Development Authority is to correct and prevent deterioration in the Romeo Business District; to encourage historic preservation; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans in the district and promote economic growth.

MINUTES

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman, Kelley Stephens called the meeting to order at 7: 03pm and led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Executive Director Lisa Hall called the roll

Present: *Tarr, Brandt, Rose, Parker, Stephens*

Absent: *Hayes, Humphreys, Malzahn, Poznanski*

A quorum of the Board was present

Public Forum – None

Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Brandt second by Rose to approve the June 7, 2021 agenda as presented.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION carried.

Approval of the Minutes -

MOTION by Parker second by Brandt to approve the March 1, 2021 Combined Goals, Objectives and 21/22 Budget Workshop Minutes, May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and May 11, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION carried.

Treasurer's Report –

Humphreys was unable to create report for meeting. Will combine June 2021 with July 2021 report for July 2021 meeting.

DDA Executive Director's Report – Lisa Hall

Funding Requests—None

Committee Reports— None

Unfinished Business -

DDA Plan Update -

Stephens provided a document from Amanda Minaudo outlining the Plan Projects that were in the 2006 Blueprints document. Minaudo asked the board to look at the projects and determine what needs to be included in the plan update and the priority of each.

Board discussed all the items, some of the projects such as crosswalks and lighting are currently being worked on in partnership with the village, beautification/streetscape such as benches and trash cans have been completed, Flowers/Maintenance and Christmas Lighting and Decoration are continuing projects.

Board determined land acquisition, parking and the park are all high priority projects, all other projects need to stay in the new plan and continue to be worked on, priority will continue to be discussed.

Lighting Partnership with Village-

Stephens advised President Malzahn provided an updated document from Rauhorn Electric Inc. Noted on the document are the number of light poles in the CBD district, 11 of the lights have new globes.

A motion and approved roll call vote to share cost of retrofitting lights to LED and replace globes at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00 was made at the May 3, 2021 regular DDA meeting.

MOTION by Parker second by Rose to maintain the original approved motion and roll call vote of May 3, 2021, to share cost of retrofitting lights to LED and replace globes at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00.

FOR THIS MOTION: *Yes: Parker, Rose, Brandt, Tarr, Stephens*
 No: None

MOTION carried.

New Business -

Senior Banners -

Stephens noted the DDA was not notified about the banners. Not sure who paid for them or for the install, will assume at this time that the DDA may receive the bill for installation.

Establish Fall Event Subcommittee -

Stephens stated the board has discussed establishing subcommittees and asked for volunteers for the Fall Event committee.

Stephens advised the board that the Chamber of Commerce will be holding the Art & Wine Walk on the 2nd Friday of October and the owner of RJD Galleries in the Village has expressed interest in participating in the event.

Fall event committee established to include, Brandt, Rose, Hall, Poznanski and Stephens.

Stephens stated she will send out an email to set dates for committee meetings.

Parking Study -

Stephens noted Malzahn provided the parking study for the board that was completed in 2006.

Tarr stated he and Hayes have walked the quadrants in the village. Don't really need a parking study, we need a parking solution. We need to find out who owns what, River of God recently did a staked survey to find their property lines, a staked survey would be helpful. Also need to look at dumpster corrals.

Parker stated a staked survey would be costly, noted all registered surveys are filed with the county.

Tarr stated maybe we could figure out who owns what.

Stephens stated she would ask Amanda at the county if she could help the DDA acquire some of the information from the county regarding who owns the parking areas.

Tarr stated if we can get the information about the owners maybe we can offer some sort of program to improve the parking.

Stephens stated she will reach out to the county for any information. Continue the discussion about a parking study at the next meeting.

Board Member Comments

Tarr stated he purchased the building next to his and is in the process of renovation, we are excited about the project.

Stephens asked if Little Ceasers will remain?

Tarr stated he is talking with them about a facade update. The renovation process can be frustrating, I can see that outsiders purchasing a building or doing renovations could use direction in how to proceed.

Rose stated the Chalk the Walk event that Poznanski spearheaded was a great event. The artwork completed in Starkweather Alley brought out a lot of people. Congratulations to Poznanski on a great event.

Rose also stated he would like to Congratulate Rachel Mac on her success. The Welcome Home event came together in a few hours with the help of the fire department, Carl Brandt, Mike Romano and many others, it was phenomenal. Thanked everyone and again congratulations to Rachel Mac.

Stephens stated the Chamber of Commerce recently held the State of the Community Luncheon. Congresswoman Lisa McClain spoke and the event was well attended.

Brandt requested Hall contact the watering contractors and ask them to water the memorial tree for Ted Czajka to the watering schedule. DDA to pay any increase in watering costs for tree.

Adjournment

MOTION by Parker second by Brandt to adjourn the meeting at 7: 40PM.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION carried.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Hall, Executive Director

Minutes approved by DDA Board motion on 7/12/21

_____ As Presented

_____ With Amendments