

Meeting of the Niles DDA Main Street Board of Director
Regular Board Meeting at City Hall
333 N 2nd Street, 3rd Floor Conference room behind DDA offices Niles, MI 49120
Monday, July 17, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

MISSION: Strengthen downtown through economic development and encourage historic preservation to promote economic growth.
www.uncoverniles.com

CALL TO ORDER by President Flagel at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Justin Flagel, Fredda Zeiter, Nick Shelton, Mark Weber, Jessica Nelson, and Linda Casperson

ABSENT: Tracy Waggoner, Melanie Kennedy, Cindy Ray, Paul Klimson, Luigi Alberganti, and Council Liaison Gretchen Bertschy

VISITORS: None

STAFF: Lisa Croteau

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

- Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda, Zeiter seconded. Motioned carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Board Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2023.
2. Approving the Managers and Committee Reports.

Weber made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, Nelson seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

3. Financial Updates: Nothing to report. Croteau stated that we should be receiving \$25,000 from MEDC Match on Mainstreet grant for Underground Laugh Lounge (former Carnegie Library).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Introduction of Items for Discussion/Items for Board Action Review

4. Manager's Report

RAP 2.0 Grant was submitted for three businesses:

1. Souldier (former Leader Publication) \$725,000.
2. Underground Laugh Lounge (former Carnegie Library) for \$50,000.
3. Jim Morris 220 Main and 402 Wayne for \$30,000.

Total application of \$805,000 which would allow for a 10% administration fee. Discussions between Croteau, Flagel, Weber, Mayor Shelton, City Administrator Huff and Cornerstone Alliance regarding a fair agreement on to the split of the administration fee were not met. Therefore, it was decided to apply for the RAP 2.0 Grant separately from Cornerstone Alliance.

5. Discuss Large Old Christmas Decorations.

Four Flags Antique Mall have requested the old Christmas decorations that were placed on the lamp post downtown during the holidays. Discussion followed regarding the proper procedure of disposing city property and why the DDA would be involved. No action taken.

BOARD APPLICATIONS/REVIEW: None

WORKING MEETING:

6. MMS Self-Assessment

Croteau provided MMS self-assessment summary of how each board member scored each category. Since some assessments were missing and not all board members were present, the discussion will continue at the next meeting.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT:

Shelton inquired about the 2nd Street lower parking lot mural agreement. Croteau explained that the DDA Design Committee agreed to pay the artist based on the ambiguous wording in the agreement. The Design Committee will be more vigilant prior to approval of an agreement.

Shelton also asked about clarification on the number of DDA board members and excused absences. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Flagel mentioned that the next crawl will be in September. Lisa will be on vacation next week and he asked that everyone refrain from contacting her during this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Shelton moved to adjourn at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Linda Casperson, Secretary

DDA