

Sparta Downtown Development Authority
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2020
160 E. DIVISION STREET, SPARTA, MI 49345

Meeting called to order at 7:46 am by Cheslek.

Members present: Jacobsen, Cheslek, Freeland, Shangle, Lamb, Bush, Potter

Members Absent: Baker, Potes, Dougan

Also Present: Elizabeth Morse, DDA Director; Dana Quick, Chamber president; Maryann Wright, Events President; Dale Bergman, Township Supervisor

Motion by Lamb, second by Freeland to approve the minutes of January 14, 2020. All Approved.

Motion by Lamb, second by Potter to approve the financials. All approved.

Public Comment – None

Unfinished Business

A. An update on the Town Square that an agreement with Baker Investments has been reached and the first tenant has been secured. We were able to bring in Marlies Manning with Manning Design who originally designed the first arches redesign in 2015 and able to create an updated sketch of the layout of the square using the space available but keeping in mind the parking lot traffic flow.

New Business

A. Discussion on the DeLange Harness Shop Open House Date: consensus to invite other organizations such as the Rotary, Historical Commission to be part of the event.

B. A discussion with property owners at 203 E. Division who are adding brick to the front of the property was to include a clock on the top of the arch. General discussion from the board agreed that the project would qualify for the Property Enhancement Grant and that it could be a very good looking downtown element. The last grant was given on that property in 2014, and there is a five-year timetable on a grant (no property shall receive the Property Enhancement Grant within five years), so they are eligible.

Executive Session None.

Business Director Report

Public Comment – None

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by executive privilege at 8:46 am. Respectfully Submitted by Elizabeth Morse

Goals 2020

- 1) Finish 194 E. Division (siding, landscaping, water problem/ sewer problem, roof, store front windows)
- 2) DTMJ Property: provide all manner of assistance for development on vacant parcel
- 3) Alt Oil Property: redevelop vacant parcel
- 4) Assist 201 E. Division on redevelopment opportunities / retail infill
- 5) Property Maintenance /Capital Improvement Plan: parking lot repaving, large Christmas Tree, crosswalk repair, trim downtown tree schedule, sidewalks, street lights, bricks in right of way downtown, etc.
- 6) Pocket Parklet Improvements
- 7) Elm Street Parking: address the gravel parking area