

Sparta Downtown Development Authority
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 10, 2025
SPARTA CIVIC CENTER

Meeting called to order at 7:45 am by Chair Cheslek

Members present: Driscoll, Freeland, Stoner, Lamb, Cheslek, Whalen, Benham, Potes, Gray, Shangle

Members Excused: Scarffe, Baker

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Elizabeth Morse, DDA Director;

Motion to accept the DDA meeting minutes May 13, 2025 by Lamb, second by Potes. All approved.

Approval of DDA Finance Report. Motion by Whalen, second by Freeland. All approved.

Public Comment – Jackie Barber from 77 E. Division and Jeff Christians from 98 E. Division, and Scott Grossmeyer were in attendance.

Unfinished Business - None

- A. Discussion of expanding the social district boundaries. Consensus to pursue the larger boundary as discussed and to ask Township if they would like Library area in the social district.
- B. Discussion on the new layout for Sparta Town Square public gathering space and railroad historic depot. After some logistical changes, the new layout increases the area of the gathering space and changes the arrangement of the depot to face the gathering space. The project is awaiting the approval of the State Historic Preservation Office before proceeding to bidding the project out.

New Business

- A. Discussion of constructing a new pedestrian bridge across Nash Creek to the new Balyeat Parking lot. Consensus to pursue for a future agenda item and to include items to make the bridge decorative and aesthetically pleasing.

Public Comment - None.

DDA Business Director Report

- A) Attached.
- B) Discussion on adding more info onto the webpage about board members, board meetings, and providing an annual “update” to the businesses in the DDA district that could be emailed or mailed out. There could be a question to the businesses who may be interested to get more involved and could provide the business-needed dates for involvement (hay bale registration, etc.)

Meeting adjourned by executive privilege at 8:19 am.