

City of Ypsilanti
Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, September 20th, 2018 – 8:30 a.m.
Minutes

The **Mission** of the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority (YDDA) is to undertake district-wide improvements that have the greatest impact in strengthening the downtown areas and attracting new business. The primary goal of the YDDA is to implement positive economic, physical, aesthetic, and community changes in each of our four districts.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Amanda Edmonds	A	Danielle Milner	P
Kayia Robinson	P	Andrew O’Neal	P
Adam Gainsley	A	Ylondia Portis	P
Ben Harrington	P	Dieter Otto	P
Andrew French	P	Janette Rook	P

Introductions-

The board and staff officially introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda (X)* Andrew O’Neal motioned to approve the agenda and Dieter Otto supported the motion. The committee approved the agenda. Motion Carried.

Approval of August 16th, 2018 Minutes (X)*

Ylondia Portis motioned to approve the August 16, 2018 meeting notes and Andrew O’Neal supported the motion. Motion carried.

Audience Participation (3 minutes each)

Yen Azzaro and Shary Brown spoke about Ypsi Glow and how they are happy to be invited to Ypsi again, gearing up for their next event.

Corrinne Sikorski on behalf of the Food Co/op and the Freighthouse

Staff Report/Financial Report (X) - Andy French suggests adding strategic goals and “where we are at” to the staff goals and this could be done after the board retreat. Ben Harrington would like to keep the financial report digital.

Standing Committee Reports

Operations and Finance Committee-

Ypsi Glow Sponsorship (X)*

Dieter Otto motioned to support a sponsorship of \$2100 to YpsiGlow for this year’s event on October 26th, and Andy French supported the motion.

Motion passes unanimous.

Maple Street Lot Policy(X)*

Andy French gave the board a recap of the committee conversation.

Joe Meyers talked about the two rentals that have taken place since the policy was passed.

Corinne Sikorski informed the board that the Freighthouse is not using the lot for valet that blocks off, or fills up parking spots. A 150 person event- triggers valet parking for an event. She believes the discrepancy in opinions on this matter is that Depot town Merchants are a few of the loudest voices and not all of them.

Janette Rook stated that it is problematic having two weddings a week at the Freighthouse.

Corrine Sikorski said the freight house did not start the parking problem. The building is owned by the city so it does not make sense that it would not have the same access.

Andy French would like to end the rentals now so the parking lot could be used for all users.

Ben Harrington suggested that we could maybe do a one per month rental. DDA should have the ability to rent out the lot.

Andy French and Janette Rook stressed to take into consideration the committee recommendation.

Joe Meyers read the maple street lot policy.

Motion by Andy French, supported by Janette Rook, to rescind the Maple Street Lot Parking Lot Policy.

Motion passes unanimous.

Depot Town Signage Discussion*

Discussion ensued over the Depot Town Signage and the need to create a Marketing Subcommittee to review Marketing Grants a standardization of signage in the districts.

Ben Harrington made the following appointments:

Committee Appointments

Kayia - marketing

Andy- op/fin

Danielle- op/fin

Ylondia- marketing

Janette- grants

Old Business

New Business

Annual Meeting Discussion

Bring goals for your committee for the retreat.

Retreat date will be chosen on a doodle poll.

Proposed Business -

Andy French brought up a tragic death in depot town this week and asked about the status of the DDA officer. The DDA has an obligation to have this conversation. Its the DDA's responsibility to keep the district safe.

Joe Meyers - Chief states there would be a DDA cop as of January 1st, but the DDA needs executive committee to catch up and get them at the negotiating table.

Ylondia Portis warns to be careful to not make a business vs. citizen feeling with bringing in law enforcement.

Ben Harrington will work on getting caught up, and come back with information to the board.

Mark Teachout and Jessica French discussed the history of the IGA and the negotiations that were ongoing.

Staff Updates:

Announcements/Comments- Joe and Elize will be out of office for a conference in DC this week.

Public Participation- Mark Swanson asked if Adam Gainsley is still on the board. Staff informs Mr. Swanson that the Mayor is working on this answer.

Next Meeting: October 18th, 2018 8:30am MAP Building 15 S. Washington

Key: (*) = items requiring Board action (X) = documents attached in board packet