

**Minutes**  
**DDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Meeting 8:30 AM - Thursday, April 15, 2021**  
**Virtual**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

PATTON DOYLE	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
YLONDIA PORTIS	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
KAYIA HINTON	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
ALEX MERZ	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
ANDY FRENCH	P	(Scio Township, Washtenaw County)
DIETER OTTO	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
JEN EASTRIDGE	A	
PAUL AJLOUNY	P	(City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County)
LOIS ALLEN RICHARDSON	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)

**3. AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Dieter Otto motioned to approve the agenda, and Alex Merz supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.*

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Alex Merz motioned to approve the March 18, 2021 minutes, and Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.*

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES EACH) n/a**

**6. STAFF REPORT/FINANCIAL REPORT**

TIF Revenues have come into the DDA, on track of what we were expecting, more than we were expecting in Downtown

**7. OPERATIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Maple Street Parking Lot - Freighthouse Parking, Sidewalk, Timing for enforcement**

The committee believed that the Maple street parking lot should only collect revenue when restaurants can be at 100% capacity. The committee is considering a formal recommendation to the city for lenient parking enforcement for the entire district.

Looking to construct the sidewalk for the lot.

Clearest rationale for starting parking enforcement is that leads to turnover and better management of stagnated parking throughout the district.

Board members would like to see kiosks in the Downtown District sooner.

City is not enforcing during the highest demand periods. Residents are more likely to be okay with paying during high demand periods if convenience is prioritized. Staff stated that the City has not collected any revenue for almost a year.

***Whereas the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority wishes to provide customers abundant, accessible and convenient parking while the pandemic is ongoing, therefore be it resolved the the DDA formally recommends parking enforcement not to begin until November 1, 2021, and to recommend that parking kiosks are installed in the Downtown and West Cross districts as soon as possible.***

***Moved by Dieter Otto and supported by Kayia Hinton. Resolution passed- unanimous.***

Patton Doyle does not want to undermine the work of the Parking Manager by taking this to council.

This will be directed to the Parking Manager and the City Manager.

### **Depot Town Plaza Cafe Lighting**

Staff asked if the board wanted to wait for a formal recommendation from the operations and finance meeting. Plans for the plaza will not go into effect for several years and there will be extensive public comment when it does

***Patton Doyle motioned to approve a quote for \$2,300 from Holiday Lighting Express for the Depot Town Plaza. Dieter Otto Supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous***

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.1. IFFY 2021 Event Sponsorship Application**

Presentation by Donald Harrison from Independent Film Festival Ypsilanti.

***Dieter Otto motioned to approve \$500 from the movie drive-in series to be used for IFFY sponsorship. Kayia Hinton supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.***

### **8.2. Ypsi Alehouse Music Sponsorship for Downtown Street Closure**

Dave Roberts of Ypsi Alehouse presented his sponsorship application.

This will be a reimbursement grant. If there are rain cancellations, the money will not be spent.

***Paul Ajlouny motioned to approve a \$3000 sponsorship used for sound equipment costs for Ypsi Alehouse events on N. Washington St. Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.***

### **8.3. Street Closure Signage Improvements**

Staff presented proposed signage for the street closures.

The board discussed how to lift businesses outside of the street closure with signage.

***Dieter motioned to recommend approval of the Benchmark quote for street closure signage quote subject to the change of street closure name. Patton Doyle supported the motion.***

*Friendly amendment being a condition that other businesses in the district of the signage are reached out to, and have an opportunity to be included in additional signage by Ylondia Portis. Dieter Otto and Patton Doyle accepted the friendly amendment. Motion passed- unanimous.*

#### **8.4. 2021 Landscaping Contract**

Brian McDonald of WHCannon presented the contract.

Andy French asked if the Depot Town Plaza can be included in this contract. Yes it could be.

*Patton Doyle motioned to recommend the approval of the 2021 Landscaping Contract with the stipulation that the chair can approve up to \$2500 in changes to the contract. Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.*

#### **8.5 Stevens Waste Removal Contract**

*Patton Doyle motioned to approve the dumpster contract with Stevens. Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed, unanimous.*

#### **8.6. North Huron Billboard**

*Patton Doyle motioned to approve the artwork portion of N. Huron Billboard project and requested a few more quotes for printing and installation. Ylondia Portis supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.*

#### **9. PROPOSED BUSINESS n/a**

#### **10. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Dayna Popkey from the Ypsilanti Farmers Market- thank you for the glow up with cafe lights and gardens. Would love to be kept in the loop for further updates on the plaza.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**