

Minutes
DDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Meeting 8:30 AM - Thursday, June 17, 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)
BRYAN FOLEY	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
KAYIA HINTON	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
ANDY FRENCH (C)	P	(Scio Township, Washtenaw County)
DIETER OTTO	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
JEN EASTRIDGE	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
PAUL AJLOUNY	A	
LOIS ALLEN RICHARDSON	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
ALEX MERZ	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)
BRANDON DENT	P	(City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Andy French motioned to amend the agenda to include introductions to the new DDA board members, and Ylondia Portis supported the amendment. Motion passed - unanimous.

The DDA Board and Staff all provided brief introductions to the new board members.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dieter Otto motioned to approve the May 20, 2021 minutes, and Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES EACH)

Anthony Nitsos- DDA Building owner- asked the DDA board to find more money for all the DDA Facade and Rehab Grants. Covid crisis has hit finances of many building and business owners.

Jennifer Goulet- Wonderfool Productions- spoke about Ypsi Glow and their mural project up for the DDA Facade and Rehab Grant.

6. STAFF REPORT/FINANCIAL REPORT

The DDA is currently closing out one fiscal year and starting up another.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

7.1. Operations and Finance Committee

All the items discussed at both committees is part of the consent agenda or new business today.

7.2. Grants Committee 6-10-21

Dieter Otto suggested that the grant committee take a look at the component of placemaking/

enhancing the look of an area with murals, trees, and lighting.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1. Resolution 2021-01 Approving the Consent Agenda

- Depot Town CDC Special Event Sponsorship Application - Recommended by Operations and Finance Committee for \$3,750 funding from Depot Town Special Event Sponsorship Line Item - contingent upon DEI Statement
- Ypsi Glow Event Sponsorship - Recommended by Operations and Finance Committee for \$2,000 funding from all three districts Special Event Sponsorship line items - contingent that the group Illuminatus participate in Depot Town WonderFool Productions, and also upon the receipt of the DEI Statement.
- Ziggys Special Event Sponsorship Application - Recommended by Grants Committee for \$1,350 funding from Downtown Special Event Sponsorship Line Item Special Event Sponsorship Process Application
- Ziggys - 206 W Michigan Ave- Recommended by Grants Committee for \$868 funding from Downtown Facade and Rehab line item
- 212 W Michigan Ave.- Recommended by Grants Committee for \$8,225 funding from Downtown Facade and Rehab line item
- 432 W Mich. Recommended by Grants Committee for \$3,500 funding from Downtown Facade and Rehab line item
- 9-11 S. Washington - Recommended by Grants Committee for \$5,000 funding from Downtown Facade and Rehab line item
- 124 Pearl- Ypsi Alehouse - Recommended by Grants Committee for \$2,140 funding from Downtown Facade and Rehab line item

Ylondia Portis motioned to approve Resolution 2021-1 Consent Agenda, and Alex Merz supported the motion. Brian Foley, and Brandon Dent abstained from voting. Motion passed - unanimous.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. Multilingual Welcome Sign - Celeste Green YCS - Recommended for approval by Operations and Finance Committee

Celeste Green of YCS described the project. They have the option to start the project in the holiday season.

Lois Allen Richardson motioned to approve the multilingual welcome sign from YCS. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

9.2. Downtown Cafe Lights - Recommended by Operations and Finance Committee for \$5,895 funding from Downtown TIF Capital Improvement line item

Jen Eastridge advocated for businesses on streets that are not getting lighting love. Ylondia Portis suggested a subcommittee for equitable beautification.

Patton Doyle motioned to approval of the cafe lights project with the expectation that there will be broader conversation of beautification equity.

Lois added a friendly amendment the the DDA board hereby creates an open meeting committee for equitable beautification. Patton Doyle accepted the friendly amendment. Lois Allen Richardson supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

Andy French had to leave the meeting.

Patton Doyle motioned that Dieter Otto chair the rest of the meeting. Jen Eastridge supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

9.3. Greetings from Ypsilanti Billboard Production Quote - Quote #2 Fast Signs Recommended by Operations and Finance Committee for \$1,910.35 funding from Downtown TIF Capital Improvement line item

Lois Allen Richardson motioned to approveFast Signs quote #2 for \$1,910.35 and Dieter Otto supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

9.4. John E Lawrence Special Event Sponsorship - Recommended by Operations and Finance Committee for \$1,500 funding - Contingent that the event is held in Riverside Park, and the cost is split between Downtown and the Depot Town Special Event Sponsorship line items at \$750 each.

At the operations and finance committee, there was a contingency for this event being held at Riverside Park rather than Frog Island Park.

The event will be held every friday 7-9pm.

Andy French is concerned with parking.

Ylondia Ports suggested that people coming to this will be willing to pay to park. The event should seek out partnerships with parking structures, or lots.

Patton Doyle motioned to approve the John E Lawrence Special Event Sponsorship contingent that the event is held in Riverside Park, and the cost is split between Downtown and the Depot Town Special Event Sponsorship line items at \$750 each. Lois Allen Richardson supported the motion. Motion passed- unanimous.

10. PROPOSED BUSINESS

Joe Meyers gave a short presentation of the proposed 220 N. Park development.

Thank you to John Newman of Back Office Studio, who is moving to Colorado, for all his work in Ypsilanti.

11. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

12. ADJOURNMENT