



AGENDA

DDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Meeting

8:30 AM - Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Back Office Studio - 13 N Washington Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL

YLONDIA PORTIS	P	A
KAYIA HINTON	P	A
RICHARD MURPHY	P	A
DIETER OTTO (C)	P	A
KORY SCHEIBER	P	A
JEN EASTRIDGE	P	A
3. AGENDA APPROVAL
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - 4.1. [3-2-22 Grants Minutes -Special MEDC](#)
5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES EACH)
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - 6.1. 2022 Timeline
 - 6.2. Program and Eligibility Rules
 - 6.3. Revolving Loan Fund
7. PROPOSED BUSINESS
8. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION
9. ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES
SPECIAL GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING
8:30 AM - Thursday, March 3rd, 2022
Back Office Studio - 13 N. Washington - Virtual Hybrid

1. CALL TO ORDER (8:42am) *Late start due to technical difficulties.*

2. ROLL CALL

YLONDIA PORTIS	P
KAYIA HINTON	P
DIETER OTTO (C)	P
KORY SCHEIBER	A
JEN EASTRIDGE	P
PATTON DOYLE	A

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Ylondia Portis motioned to approve the agenda and Richard Murphy supported the motion. The committee approved the agenda. Motion Carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the last meeting were not included in the packet, but will need to be approved at the next grants committee meeting.

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Scoring Matrix for reference Match on Main

Staff reviewed the scoring matrix with the committee.

6.2. GO! Ice Cream Match on Main Grant Application

Rob Hess, owner of Go! Ice Cream spoke about his application and project. He plans to expand freezer space for production and to activate the underutilized “party room” into a space that can host pop-ups. They tested the pop up concept with a guest bakery, and it proved to be very successful.

6.3. Tap Room Match on Main Grant Application

Tap Room plans to renovate its third room, the Annex space. The committee reviewed the project and its 3rd party estimates.

6.4. Love at First Try Match on Main Grant Application

Cartessa Brown, owner of Love at First Try presented her application and project. She hopes to activate the back of her space, create sewing workshops for kids, and to make the front of her shop appear more open than it currently does. She also plans to use the funding for marketing and billboards.

6.5. Aubrees Match on Main Grant Application

Andy French, owner of Aubrees presented his application and project. The air conditioning units on the side of their building are over 25 years old and need to be replaced. The units are not able to cool the

space making it uncomfortable for guests in the summertime. The roof above their bathrooms has major water leaks when it rains. This project would make their rooftop bar accessible again.

The committee used the rubric to individually score the applications.

Jen Eastridge left the meeting at 9:45am after she turned in her scores. She pointed out the barriers of reimbursement grants.

Scoring totals as follows: (highest possible score is 50 per criteria, and a total of 150 possible points)

	Impact and alignment with strategic goals	Private investment leveraged	Activation of a vacant or underutilized space	Score
Go! Ice Cream	45	34	46	125
Tap Room	33	39	36	108
Love at First Try	44	27	48	119
Aubrees	37.5	48	40	125.5

Kayia Hinton motioned to recommend Aubrees as #1, Go! Icecream as #2, Love at First Try as #3 and Taproom as #4 consideration to the DDA board for the 2022 MEDC Match on Main grant. Richard Murphy supported the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

7. PROPOSED BUSINESS

Ylondia Portis noted the inequity of this and other building grants, and wants to continue the conversation as a grants committee.

Richard Murphy suggested looking into the City of Niles DDA’s loan program that helps reduce that barrier for their applicants. Staff hadn't heard of their program and will be looking into it further.

8. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Rob Hess- Go! Ice Cream stated that he appreciates the thoughtfulness of the committee in this process.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ylondia Portis and supported by Kayia Hinton. Motion passed- unanimous.