

CITY OF COOPERSVILLE
REGULAR DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
Coopersville City Hall; 289 Danforth Street, Coopersville, Michigan

May 12, 2020

Chairman Koch called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.

Meeting was held via GoToMeeting in accordance with current Executive Orders from Governor Whitmer because of concerns related to COVID-19.

Roll Call

Present:

Chairman Koch	Board Member Slater
Board Member Du Pilka	Board Member Grossenbacher
Board Member Noel	Board Member Veldman
Board Member Buth	Board Member Kelly
Board Member Dykstra	
Ex-Officio Member Seyferth	

Absent:

Board Members Ver Berkmoes, Fynewever

Motion by Board Member Buth with second by Board Member Kelly to excuse the absent Board Members Ver Berkmoes & Fynewever. Roll Call Vote, all voted affirmatively.

Agenda

Motion by Board Member Kelly with second by Board Member Slater to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote, all voted affirmatively.

Minutes

March meeting minutes were not presented

Citizen Input and Suggestions

None

Petitions & Communications:

UPDATED and Bid Discussion on Walk Through Park

Director Berends gave an update and let the board know that bid packets would go out on Wednesday, May 13 with a bid opening ahead of the June meeting.

To help save on costs, DPW will be doing all the demo work in the walk thru park. The goal is to have flatwork completed before Summerfest.

Board Member Buth asked if there was anyway to have a local contractor work on the fireplace outside of the bid proposal.

Ex-officio member Seyferth noted that at this time it was included as part of the bid and that any contractor who would like to be can as long as they are licensed and ensured.

Board Member Slater asked if there was a timeline on the project once it starts?

Ex-official member Seyferth responded that there will be a substantial completion date on the project.

Board Member Buth will we discuss this again in the future?

Director Berends noted that the DDA will approve the final contractor following the bid opening.

Discussion DDA and Chamber Merger

Coopersville Area Chamber Board President, Julie Brown, gave an overview of what the Chamber was looking at regarding exploring a merger or close partnership between the chamber and DDA.

- There are a number of overlapping duties
- Clarity for community businesses on who to reach out to
- Chamber is asking that the DDA form a joint exploration committee with the Chamber to explore the possibility of a merger or a closer partnership.

Board Member Veldman gave some context to how the conversation got started and Director Berends gave the board her thoughts on what she's learned and done since taking on the interim-director roll at the Chamber in concert with the DDA duties.

Board Member Slater noted that in the past when these two entities worked together it worked well and he'd like to see that happen again. Board Member Slater also said he'd like to volunteer for the exploration committee.

Board Member Kelly agreed that we need to look at the future and this could be a great option

Board Member Du Pilka affirmed he thought exploring this is a great idea.

Board Member Slater motioned with support from Board Member Grossenbacher to appoint Greg Slater and Ron Veldman to the exploration committee. Roll Call Vote, all voted affirmatively.

DDA Information Packet

Motion by Board Member Du Pilka with support from Board Member Buth to receive and file the DDA Board Information Packet. Roll Call Vote, all voted affirmatively.

DDA Director's Comments

- Noted it's been an interesting few months with COVID-19 and we've all learned to roll with things.

- She's been working with Lakeshore Advantage related to hardship grants and loans for local businesses. She noted 1 business did get a grant and 2 received loans. Because these are hardship situations, they are not advertising who received them.
- In both rolls (DDA Director and interim-Director with the Chamber) she's been working work businesses and communicating with them. She wants the board to know she sees a lot of support for both the DDA and Chamber.

Board Member & Chairman Koch's Comments

Board Member Veldman – if you have any comments or concerns for him related to the Chamber/DDA discussions, please let him know.

Board Member Buth – Thanked Board Member Veldman for getting the conversation going with the Chamber; Some of the trashcan lids in downtown need to be repainted; Question about the North Bank Trail and if we're planning for that.

Ex-officio Member Seyferth responded noting it's in the City's Master plan and will be part of the Rec Master Plan that is being worked on. Additionally, the City has representation on the North Bank Trail Committee. The major question out there right now is where the trail will enter the City of the West side of town and that needs to be coordinated with Polkton Township.

Adjournment

Motion by Board Member Buth with support from Board Member Du Pilka to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

Chairman Bob Koch