

City of Flint Downtown Development Authority
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors

August 28, 2019

502 Church Street, Flint, Michigan

	Present	Absent
Mayor Karen Weaver, Chairperson	X	
Inez Brown		X
Loyst Fletcher, Jr., Vice Chairperson	X	
John Gazall	X	
Louis Hawkins	X	
Jonathan Hardman	X	
Glen Kelly	X	
Robert Kittel	X	
Brandee Brown	X	
Adrian Walker	X	
Greg Viener	X	

Others Present: Gerard Burnash, Executive Director, DDA and Tyler Cherry, Taylor & Morgan, CPA

A. Call to Order:

Chairperson, Hon. Karen Weaver declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order in DDA's Conference room at 7:35 a.m.

B. Opportunity for Public to Address the Board:

None.

C. Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Louis Hawkins, supported by Greg Viener, the DDA Board unanimously approved the minutes for July 24, 2019 Regularly Scheduled Monthly Board of Directors Meeting.

D. Personnel and Finance Committee:

Tyler Cherry reported that expenses were more than income which is normal for July as it is the first month of the fiscal year.

Jonathan Hardman requested the DDA check on a \$7,000 AT&T bill, which Tyler Cherry confirmed was neither received, nor paid by the DDA.

E. Marketing and Promotions Committee:

Jonathan Hardman reported that the block party that took place after Hot Dogs & Hot Rods event drew about 3,000 people and went well.

Jonathan also reported that the CVB is in the process of developing a downtown information map.

F. Design Committee:

John Gazall commented that closing the street down on Friday for Back to the Bricks was very inconvenient for the downtown businesses. And that Back to the Bricks did not request it, and asked Mayor Weaver to check on where the request to close came from. Mayor Weaver, after checking with the City of Flint, reported that it was Back to the Bricks that made the request to the City of Flint.

John asked if we could check with the chairman of the Genesee County Commission to see if the County would open the county parking lot for additional parking after 5.

Jonathan Hardman inquired about the DDA employing people with flags directing traffic for downtown events.

John Gazall would like to see sidewalk repair and new trees.

Jonathan Hardman requested an explanation for the placemaking grant. Loyst Fletcher explained that while the DDA would participate in the process as it develops, the DDA is primarily acting as the fiduciary for the Mott Foundation placemaking grant.

Upon motion by Loyst Fletcher, which was supported by Greg Viener, and after discussion, the DDA Board unanimously approved the RESOLUTION OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF FLINT TO ESTABLISH DOWNTOWN MARKETING COMMITTEE, and authorized Gerard Burnash to apply for a grant from the Mott Foundation for \$100,000.00 for funding the marketing committee.

G. Economic Development:

Mayor Weaver informed the board that Mahindra is working to bring 2,000 jobs to the old Buick City Site. Mahindra signed a letter of intent with RACER trust to build a plant at the site.

H. Executive Director's Report:

Gerard Burnash discussed the DDA's daily business since the last meeting and reported on events in the downtown since the last meeting. Gerard commented that maintenance staff has been extremely busy with all the events hosted downtown in addition to the regularly scheduled maintenance. An example is that DDA staff installed a reconditioned motor and pump in the Crim Plaza and hanged lights in time for the Crim Festival of races.

Gerard Burnash also reported meeting with various groups regarding the loitering in the Kearsley Street flat lot after midnight on weekends. Discussed during the meeting, and with others in the downtown community, was changing the hours of operation on the Kearsley Street barrier gates.

Gerard reported that the DDA replaced most of the dumpsters in Bush Alley with the DDA's tote service. The goal is to make the Brush Alley more passable for activities at the Dryden Building, Ferris Wheel, and Capital Theatre.

Gerard Burnash also reported that he was asked, and has accepted, a position on the Crim Mindfulness Advisory Board co-chaired by Dr. Bobby Mukkamala and Mona Hanna-Attisha.

- I. Adjournment: Th meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Louis Hawkins, Secretary