

**CITY OF HANCOCK
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 2012**

Chairperson Pete Wickley called the regular monthly DDA meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Monday, October 1, 2012 at City Hall with the following members present: Kathy Johnson, Bonnie Holland, Peter Wickley, Steve Zutter, Jordan Johnson, Bill Laitila and Jim Bogan.

Absent: Carol Fisher and Frank Taucher

Guests/Staff: John Haeussler, John Slivon, Jennifer Burkhouse and Glenn Anderson

It was moved by Zutter and seconded by K. Johnson to approve the agenda.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Laitila and seconded by J. Johnson to approve the September 10, 2012 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

Public Comments: City Council Member John Haeussler thanked the DDA board for providing the local \$87,500 match for the DNR MNRTF grant for the Navy Street Boardwalk project.

Bonnie Holland mentioned the upcoming three reshape downtown sessions scheduled for October 13th, October 27th and November 10th.

Updates/Information

-Reviewed the September 11th HB&PA minutes

-Heard that the TORI was having a great year, with both vendors and customers. They hope to stay open until October 20th.

-Heard that Finlandia University has a SEEDSIGN celebration and showcase scheduled for Oct. 17th at 7:30 p.m. at the Jutila Center, 200 Michigan Ave.

-Learned that the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission will be asking Franklin Township for a 3 year option to purchase the Quincy Smelter property for a possible location for the Isle Royale National Park headquarters facility.

-Heard that TALON Research, Inc. held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Sept. 27th to celebrate its new office in the Citizen Bank Building, garden level.

Page 2.

- TALON Research also recently received a \$44,000 MEDC/SmartZone business accelerator fund grant to expand its BridgeGard product line.
- Heard that Jackson Life Insurance Company will be opening a new infrastructure technology office at the Lake Shore Center as part of the SmartZone incubator space on the first floor.
- Heard that REMY Battery Company will be opening its second Upper Peninsula branch retail office at 315 Dakota St., the site of Evert's old business operations.
- Heard that Mike Lahti is having the top cornice of the Scott Hotel Building painted with some road closures required
- Heard that both units (A & B) at 210 Quincy St. have been rented out, one to Carol Kreher of Fiber Whims, and the other unit will house a private office.
- Noted Habanero's had installed their business signs at 101 E. Quincy St., and final code inspections are scheduled for October 22nd, with expected opening soon thereafter.

The DDA looked over several new downtown parking sign proposals and will ask for input from the reshape downtown sessions on which one to select.

The DDA Board reviewed an application for a façade grant from Catherine Hiltunen for 312 Quincy St, which she recently purchased, and plans to open a paint your own pottery store. The request was for \$10,000, and included price quotes for new windows for \$9,544 and both façade, roof, and basement wall repairs for \$8,450.

It was moved by Holland and seconded by K. Johnson to approve a maximum façade grant of \$10,000 to Catherine Hiltunen for the building located at 312 Quincy St. with a direction to clarify that only the costs related to the façade will be reimbursed on one to one cost basis.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

DDA Board member Bill Laitila requested the DDA to include \$20,000 for sidewalk repairs along Quincy St. and Hancock Street to be done before FinnFest in June. The DDA asked for a list of possible locations before making a decision.

Bill Laitila also requested funds to install flower baskets along Quincy St. as part of FinnFest preparations.

Jennifer Burkhouse asked that the city remove the parking meter stands before winter.

It was moved by K. Johnson and seconded by Zutter to adjourn at 6:10 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

Page 3.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson
Secretary Pro-Tem