

**CITY OF HANCOCK
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2015**

The regular monthly DDA meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pete Wickley on Monday, August 3, 2015 with the following members present: Jeff Lang, Kathy Johnson, John Diebel, Jordan Johnson, Jonathan Luse, Jr., Lisa McKenzie and Pete Wickley.

Absent: Carol Fisher and Steve Zutter

Guests/Staff: Glenn Anderson

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

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

It was moved by K. Johnson and seconded by Diebel to approve the June 1, 2015 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

Public Comments: None

Updates/Information

-Noted the 2nd Annual Festa Italiana schedule for Saturday, August 8th at the Houghton County Arena

-Heard the City can incur MEDC \$176,390 grant expenses for the Vollwerth's project effective July 28, 2015

-Heard that Vollwerth's had hired 4 new hires, with 6 more to go

-Reviewed the 1st Annual Keweenaw Science and Engineering Festival event schedule for August 5th through the 8th

-Heard that Waste Management now accepts plastics #1 thru #8 for recycling at its drop off in Houghton, but will now charge \$4.00 per vehicle. Previously, there was no charge for drop off

-Learned that Mario Paoli has purchased the business and building, Credit Services, Inc., located at 304 Quincy St.

-Heard that the Calumet Public Schools will be opening the Discovery Center, 601 Ingot St., for state paid home school classes

-Heard that the Governor and legislative leaders are still trying to find a road funding plan that would increase revenue for road construction

-Heard that MDOT is allowing municipalities to put up yield to pedestrian signs on State Highways for the first time. The City of Houghton is installing 5 yield to pedestrian locations on Sheldon Ave. crosswalks.

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- Reviewed plans for a 3,970 sq. ft. sports locker room building to be located at McAfee Field built for Finlandia University.
- Noted that Lake Superior Magazine voted the Hancock TORI tied for the second best Farmers Market in Michigan
- Reviewed an MML article on the UP Innovation Shore Branding effort
- Noted that SkyWest/ United Airlines was again the only bidder on essential air service at CMX for 2016 & 2017 via Chicago, at an annual subsidy of \$1,633,954, the load factor is 63% and per passenger subsidy is estimated at \$36.
- Received an update on the 3,332 sq. ft. addition to the World of Wood building project, 215 Hancock St.
- Heard Risto Aholinna purchased the Frank Taucher Sr. house and storage building on Hancock Street
- Heard David Monticello has installed 6 of the 22 window replacements at the Monticello's building
- Heard Mike Pflaum, KNHP Superintendent, is taking the Badlands National Park Superintendant position in late August.

The DDA Board reviewed streetscape and MDOT Quincy Street layouts planned for the 2016 MDOT construction project including a typical bump out intersection, Front Street widening by 4 feet and applicable retaining wall, Krist Oil Triangle design and typical cross section profiles.

The DDA Board reviewed the welcome sign to be located on the triangle facing South bound US 41 stating, "Welcome to Downtown Hancock, Home of Finlandia University."

The DDA Board discussed the city's bike and pedestrian committee recommendation to install North ½ bump outs on Hancock Street cross walks at Tezcuco Street, Ravine Street, Montezuma Street and Dakota Streets, which MDOT would fund, and paint a 5' wide bike lane on the South side of Hancock Street from M-203 to Reservation Street

The DDA Board reviewed two façade grant applications from Mark Isaacson representing the Mary Rae Isaacson Irrevocable Trust for 220/222 Quincy St. and 224/226 Quincy St., home to the former Risto Hardware store. The building has 4 entrances on Quincy Street, and the owner is requesting two \$10,000 façade grants to be matched. The owner plans on hiring OHM Advisors to design the façade.

It was moved by McKenzie and seconded by Luse to approve two \$500 design grants for 220/222 Quincy Street and 224/226 Quincy Street.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

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It was moved by Luse and seconded by K. Johnson to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson
Secretary Pro-Tem