

**CITY OF HANCOCK
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2009**

Chairperson Peter Wickley called the regular monthly DDA meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2009 with the following members present: Peter Wickley, Carol Fisher, Kathy Johnson, Bill Laitila, Steve Zutter and Bonnie Holland.

Absent: Frank Taucher, Darin Leetun and Jim Bogan

Guests: Jack Rice and Dave Jukuri

It was moved by Zutter and seconded by Johnson to approve the July 6, 2009 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

There were no Public Comments

Updates/Information

- Reviewed the August 11, 2009 minutes of the HB & PA.
- Heard the City Council approved a request to MSHDA to help fund housing for Derek Bradway's plan to develop 11 new rental units in the old St. Peter & Paul Church on Hancock Street.
- Learned that the city has escrowed \$81,689 in insurance proceeds for the Bradway building fire at 116 Quincy St. and had agreed to Derek Bradway's selection of Northend Excavating to remove fire damaged material from the inside of the building.
- Received a thank you from Sew Sisters for the façade grant reimbursement of \$325 for a new sign face.
- Heard that Tom Wenc had completed most of his façade work at his building at 325 Quincy St.
- Heard that the Holiday Gas Station was going to do a façade improvement project.
- Heard that Studio Pizza's new store at the Pic Theatre building is expected to open on September 21st.
- Noted that Moyle Development had recorded its master deed for the Canal Crossing Condo project.
- Heard the city was awarded a MSHDA NSP grant for building demolition projects.
- Heard that there is a new owner for 118-122 Hancock St. and the first floor of the house may be converted to a retail Christian Book Store.
- Received an update on the MTEC SmartZone operations.
- Received a briefing on a proposed 28 unit assisted living facility by Julien Properties, LLC. Proposed on a 5 acre parcel of land located just East of the 1 million gallon water tank on Ingot St.

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-Noted that Houghton County had received over \$42,000,000 of ARRA funds as of August 10th, the most in the 1st congressional district.

-Heard that the city recreation commission is working on a 5 year plan update and may add a walking and biking annex to the plan.

-Heard the city received \$8.2 million in ARRA funds for water and sewer distribution upgrades, including \$4,883,000 in grants, and the balance in low interest loans at 2.65% interest.

-Learned that the Copper Country Community Arts Center has been awarded a \$60,000 Kresge Foundation green building initiative grant and has scheduled three October speaker presentations on green building design.

-Heard that the Parade of Nations parade is scheduled for 11:00 a.m., Saturday, September 19th.

-Reviewed a structural report completed by Michael Drewyor, P.E., on the condition of 116 Quincy St.

Jack Rice, owner representative of the Gartner's Building, 102 Quincy St. and Dave Jukuri, Century 21 Real Estate attended the meeting to encourage the DDA to consider purchasing the building. The current asking price is \$180,000. The building has been for sale for over a year with no formal offers. Jack Rice said the building is owned by eight owners, and they are interested in disposing of the building. Jack said asbestos was removed, and the boiler is about 10 years old. The roof is ok with one or two small leaks around the roof drain. The bricks on the exterior of the building on the West side need repair.

Pete Wickley said the building is an important building to the downtown and the DDA should cautiously explore the feasibility of reusing the building. Pete noted the front of the building has vitrolite installed on the façade of the building. The DDA agreed to tour the building after the next regular meeting on October 5th.

The DDA reviewed the notice from the DOT Essential Air Service to comment on the two proposals received for air service to CMX. The deadline for comments is September 25th. Houghton County and both cities of Hancock & Houghton will hold a joint public hearing on the matter on September 23rd to receive public comments.

It was moved by Holland and seconded by Johnson to approve hiring OHM/ Hitch for \$1,900 to submit a permit application to construct a 300 foot long walkway between the old Coast Guard sidewalk to the Ramada Inn boardwalk along Navy Street by Coon Electric.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

The DDA discussed approving up to \$40,000 to pave a new street being constructed between Birch St. and Forest St. The DDA agreed to table the matter until the next meeting and to review available funds.

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The DDA asked that the city assure that the plate glass front of the building at 116 Quincy St. be replaced in lieu of boarded up.

It was moved by Fisher and seconded by Holland to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson
Secretary Pro-Tem