

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

Call to order by Chair Jonathan Luse at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers

Present: Jonathan Luse, Bob Frantti, Paul LaBine, John Diebel, Steve Patchin, Andy Lahti, Michele Blau

Absent: Steve Zutter, Ryan Heinonen

Others Attending: Mary Babcock, Deb Mann, Sadiq Edo-Abdi, Miriam Pickens

Regular Meeting:

Motion by Member Diebel and seconded by Member Frantti to approve the agenda

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Member Diebel and seconded by Member Blau to approve the October 4, 2021 meeting minutes.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comments: None

Updates/Information:

- Employee update – John Erickson has been hired as the Director of the Department of Public Works.
 - Laura O'Donnell has been hired for the Clerical position in the City Hall.
 - Retirements – Bill Marlor, Leroy Kenny both retired from the DPW
 - Business Updates – Jim's Pizza, Burgers and Bowls is open at 1027 Ethel for dine in and take out
 - Antila Funeral Home is for sale
 - Elks Building back on the market for sale
 - 101 Navy Street came before the Planning Commission for approval for the Waterfront Restaurant
 - Sunflower Books and Coffee predicts their operation to open soon at 528 Quincy Street once renovations are completed and Health Department regulations are met
 - ReFill UP is an eco-friendly and sustainable products store opened at 323 Quincy Street
 - Retro rental and Repair rented the east side of the Gartner Building retail space. Mark and Jesse Johnson are now interested in proceeding in development of the upper levels for residential space
- Grant updates – EGLE has approved the application for the Level 2 Charger
- NEP 5 has closed and monies have been disbursed to the City of Hancock
 - NEP 6 remains in progress – picture of properties in packet

City Projects: - Tezcuco wall repair, sidewalk and black top at Ravine and Franklin complete

- Website near completion by Opus Web and link will be shared for review prior to going live
- RRC updates – Sadiq, Deb and Mary working toward task completion, some tasks will be moved to completed status once the website goes live

Winter parking ban is now in effect until April 30, 2022

Hancock has been named the 338th International City of Peace (Goal of 1000 cities involved by 2025)

The Christmas Walk is scheduled for Friday, November 26. Holiday Lighting is being placed by DPW and Keweenaw Power and Lite (big tree).

Holiday Home Decorating Contest will be held again this year with prizes from Superior National Bank and the City of Hancock. – flyer enclosed

Dog Park update: Difficulty with rocky terrain delayed some insertion of posts, fencing and gates. Signage for Rules and Regulations has been ordered. Soft opening scheduled this fall with additional amenities and grand opening in the spring of 2022.

Old Business:

- a) Motion made by Member LaBine and seconded by Member Frantti to table request for approval of Design Grant for architectural services for 209 N. Montezuma.

Yes: All

No: None

Item Tabled

- b) Motion made by Member Patchin and seconded Member Diebel to approve \$11,000 for the Hancock Beautification budget for existing projects and the redevelopment of the Lincoln/Quincy triangle and the area behind the west Hancock welcome sign.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried

New Business:

- a) Member Diebel recused himself from the voting for this item.

Motion made by Member Frantti and seconded by Member Blau to approve the Small Business Incentive Program – “Hancock Business Jumpstart Program”

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried

Public Comments: Miriam Pickens clarified the purpose to the International Cities of Peace and suggested that Peace Poles be placed in the City of Hancock in conjunction with Hancock Beautification Committee.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn made by Member Diebel and seconded by Member Blau at 6:24 PM
Yes: All
No: None
Motion Carried

The next Regular DDA Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted

Deborah A. Mann

Deborah Mann, DDA Coordinator

11 / 01 / 2021

Date