



**CANTON TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the
January 15, 2020 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:59 A.M. by Citizen Representative, Greg Greene

Present: Bart Patterson, Dianne Cojei, Greg Greene, Janet Volante, Mark Waldbauer, Pat Williams, Seth Kleinglass

Absent: Andy Hargreaves, Chuck Jones, Laura Giove, Steven Brock

Staff: Amy Hamilton, Kerri Romanko

Others: None

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Greg Greene wanted to add something about recognizing Melissa McLaughlin. Amy Hamilton said that she was going to talk about that in the coordinators report. She suggested dedicating a piece of permanent art. Amy said she reached out to Melissa about it to find out what she envisioned and what kind of art she would like. Melissa McLaughlin said she loves the Chicken we currently have on Ford Rd. She likes it because it is big, whimsical and fun. Amy Hamilton asked OHM if they can make one more attempt at getting Speedway to allow us to put a permanent art piece on their property under the circumstances.

Greg Greene also wanted to add to the agenda a discussion on where Canton's DDA is going and where it has been.

MOTION: Mark Waldbauer, supported by Bart Patterson, to accept the agenda with the additional discussion item.

AYES: All present

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2019 MINUTES

MOTION by Dianne Cojei, supported by Mark Waldbauer, to approve the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes.

AYES: All present

CITIZENS' NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION: by Janet Volante, supported Dianne Cojei, to accept the payment of bills.

AYES: All present

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Amy Hamilton explained that we have three positions open: Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer. Board members can nominate themselves or anyone else.

For the position of chair, Mark Waldbauer and Bart Patterson were nominated.

The board expressed concern that several members were absent and should be a part of the nomination process. As a result, the board decided to hold an electronic nomination/election process via email.

MOTION: by Dianne Cojei, supported Bart Patterson, to elect officers by voting via email.

AYES: All present

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 PUBLIC ART EXHIBIT PROPOSAL

Amy Hamilton said the DDA has been doing the public art exhibition for ten years now. We switch out the sculptures every May. Ken from Midwest Sculptures sent us the budget, which hasn't changed in the last four years. There will be a jury selection in March to choose art pieces.

MOTION: by Bart Patterson, supported Mark Waldbauer, to approve the 2020-2021 public art purchase order.

AYES: All present

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PO TO ALBAUGH MASONRY FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF DDA WALLS

Amy Hamilton said that last year we did a blanket PO for \$65,000 but we only used about \$30,000 of it. This year she is recommending a blanket PO for \$45,000 to cover all accident

repairs and maintenance.

MOTION: by Mark Waldbauer, supported Seth Kleinglass, to approve a PO for Albaugh Masonry for wall repairs.

AYES: All present

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PO TO CANTON WATER BILLING DIVISION

Amy Hamilton said that over the last four years we've averaged about \$85,000 in expenses. Typically we approve a PO of \$95,000 and she suggested keeping it the same. Our lowest year was \$68,000 and our highest, \$110,000. So, \$95,000 seems like a good place to keep it at. Anything not spent rolls back into the fund balance.

MOTION: by Janet Volante, supported Dianne Cojei, to approve a PO for Canton Water Billing

AYES: All present

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PO TO GREAT LAKES POWER AND LIGHTING FOR STREETLIGHT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES

Amy Hamilton recommends a \$90,000 blanket purchase order for upfront costs of accident repairs and maintenance of the lighting system.

MOTION: by Mark Waldbauer, supported Bart Patterson, to approve a PO for Great Lakes Power and Lighting.

AYES: All present

DISCUSSION ITEM: THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF CANTON'S DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Greg Greene said the board collectively agreed to focus on infrastructure but he feels we have lost social momentum. He expressed that the community has become rather dull when it comes to social activity. He pointed out that while Canton holds the soccer tournament and we have our shredding events, we also used to do Stuff-a-Bus and the Jazz Concerts. He would like to see us hold one or two charitable events a year to put us back out there with the community.

Amy Hamilton pointed out that we don't have as much in the budget that we used to. The shred events are good because they are low cost community events but we should keep our infrastructure needs mind. Janet Volante added that when we did the master plan we asked what the community wanted from the DDA and the majority of the responses pointed toward infrastructure needs.

Pat Williams said that one of the first things he shared with Melissa McLaughlin when he became supervisor is that we are not a social club in the DDA, the businesses promote themselves and infrastructure is the first priority. With the Ford Rd Boulevard coming, he suggested saving every penny the DDA can because the costs associated with the boulevard construction are still unknown. Amy Hamilton said the DDA will be responsible for replacing the lights, walls, mast arms etc. There are funds set aside, but won't cover everything.

Greg Greene thought the Stuff-a-Bus event was a free event as well as a good way to bring the community together. Amy Hamilton and Janet Volante both reminded the board that there was a cost for that and it was quite expensive. That was why the DDA stopped doing it.

Greg Greene said he wanted the idea to be something for the board to think about.

DDA COORDINATOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 17, 2020

- **Shred Event** – We are already getting calls about the next shred event, they are a real crowd pleaser! Is the DDA interested in funding more events this year? Last year, the DDA spent a total of \$5,160.90 for the two events.
- **OHM Update** – I have a conference call scheduled with OHM on Tuesday, January 14. They will be updating me on the cross-access progress as well as the engineering plans to pave Elmhurst, Oakview and Marlowe. I will give a more detailed update at the January 15 meeting.
- **Canton Arch Update** - MSI started working on the Arch last month. The new limestone column parts are cut-out and they are finishing up repairs on the steel. MSI repaired/replaced the foundation at the site in November. Weather permitting, they hope to re-install the arch by the end of the month.
- **Cross Access Update** – Mr. D'Aguiano signed the easement agreement between himself and Slate (the Aldi Center property) on December 27. I'm waiting on a copy of the agreement from Slate so we can move forward with a construction easement this spring. We've been working on this for two years so this is great news!
- **New Business Update** –A Certificate of Compliance has been issued for the following businesses:
 - **Beaus & Bells Hair** – 42775 Ford Road
 - **Hair by Melinda** – 42775 Ford Road
 - **Bulk Food and Smoothies** –42545 Ford Road

ADDITIONAL CITIZENS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

NONE

ADJOURN

MEETING CALLED TO ADJOURN at 8:51 A.M.