

FENNVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
February 5, 2014 Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Fennville DDA was called to order at the 220 Bldg. at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Claude Rummer.

Members Present: Amy Cook (7:05 p.m.), Ed Kortman, Tony Morgan, Matthew Pietsch, Dan Rastall (7:11 p.m.), Claude Rummer, Mark Schrock

Members Absent: Mike McCracken

Others Present: Linda Barnes, HopN; Bob Berger and Kate Maryon, Greenridge Realty, Inc.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comments - None

Secretary's Report - **Schrock moved, supported by Pietsch, to approve the January 8, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

Treasurer's Report - Invoice presented was Lisa A. Sheaffer for administrative services. **Schrock moved, supported by Kortman, to approve the invoice as presented. MOTION CARRIED.**

Communications

Old Business

- A. Web Site Update - Sheaffer reported the .COM web site is up but needs to be switched to the primary account at Go Daddy for the SSL certificate. Sheaffer is working on updating the information for the web site. She will send it to the web site committee for review before passing it on to Ken.

New Business

- A. Greenridge Realty - Bob Berger and Kate Maryon are taking over the DDA account as John Burmeister has joined another realty company. Bob has a copy of the Marketing Study and will be contacting the commercial division regarding the property. Bob also suggested replacing the two signs currently on the property with one sign, which will contain information on the available lots as well as his contact information.
- B. Photographer - Current pictures of the downtown area and events are needed for the web site and for future advertising. Several possible candidates were discussed, and Sheaffer will contact.
- C. Cathy Burton-Snell, Michigan Works and other Agencies - The 220 Building is not being utilized as expected in providing community services to the Fennville area. Rummer spoke to Cathy Burton-Snell regarding assisting the DDA in getting these services organized and scheduled. He will request that she submit a proposal.

Committee Reports

- A. Economic Restructuring - No report.
- B. Organization - No report.

Physical Elements

- 1. There were problems with the Wi-Fi a few weeks ago, but it was repaired quickly. However, Linda stated that neither she nor some of her customers are able to access the Wi-Fi at HopN.
- 2. Banners with a spring theme were discussed.
- 3. Kortman is still working on a locking system for the 220 Building.

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4. MDOT would like the permit for the work on M-89 regarding the drainage issue submitted by the City. It can be submitted in conjunction with the City's annual permit.
5. The property adjacent to the 220 Building will be leased by Huntington Bank for an ATM location.
6. Dawn Soltysiak will open her new business, Fernwood 1891, in May 2014. It will feature fine art, fine craft, and artisan foods.
7. Rummer reported the Physical Elements Committee members had a good discussion with the owners of the former ink factory site. They are having the site appraised.

C. Promotion

1. The first Storytellers event is scheduled for February 17, 2014 at 6 p.m. at the Fennville Public Library. MaryAnn Moeller, Robert Hutchinson, and Bob Crane are confirmed speakers. Pietsch will contact Lara La Shell regarding audio/video recording of the event. **Cook moved, supported by Rastall, to approve a budget not to exceed \$200 for the audio/video recording of the Storytellers event. MOTION CARRIED.**
2. The committee will be changing its meetings to 11 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Chemical Bank.

D. Goose Festival – No report.

Miscellaneous

Rastall reported the County is investigating the elimination of the 911 surcharge for landlines, considering a resolution to allow 4-wheeled all-terrain vehicles on roads, and working with MDOT to reconstruct the M40-96 interchange.

The City is over its winter budget for local streets.

Rastall had information on the MiPlace initiative to revitalize Michigan. Sheaffer will scan and email to all board members.

Rastall has spoken with several snowmobilers who enjoy coming into Fennville on their snowmobiles. He requested DDA members to go to the web site of the Michigan Rock and Roll Legends Hall of Fame to vote for a Fennville-based band, the Chentelles.

Sheaffer asked about the Façade Improvement Grant. It has been approved by the DDRC and will be on the March agenda for DDA approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lisa A. Sheaffer.