



DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT BOARD

July 19, 2022

A regular meeting of the City of Petoskey Downtown Management Board was held in the City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 19, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., and the following were

Present: Ben Slocum, Chairperson
Gary Albert
Marnie Duse
Joe Keedy
Jennifer Shorter
Drew Smith

Absent: Robin Bennett, Vice Chairperson, Megan DeWindt and Mayor John Murphy

Also in attendance were Downtown Director Becky Goodman, City Manager Shane Horn and Executive Assistant Sarah Bek.

Approve Consent Agenda Items

Downtown Management Board members discussed the first item of routine business, the June 21, 2022 regular meeting minutes; acknowledgement of bills since June 21, 2022 that totaled \$38,416.57; and June expense and income reports as prepared by the Downtown Director. Shorter moved that and seconded by Albert to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

Reports by Downtown Committees

Design Committee – The Downtown Director reviewed that the report was in the packet and that the committee reviewed current façade grant program and recommended revisions to the program; that Quiet Moose did not accept their \$7,700 façade grant this year due to the fact that they did not want to change their plans to qualify with the recommendations of the committee; that the committee discussed a concept to include Tivoli lighting along the soon to be newly constructed Park Avenue project; and that the Mayor convened a group that had met on a public art plan and would be meeting next Thursday.

Events Committee – The Downtown Director reviewed that the report was in the packet and reviewed Sidewalk Sales dates, times and promotion platforms and thanked Bill Cutler for his many years of volunteer devotion to placing yard signs throughout the area.

Parking Committee – The Downtown Director reviewed that the report was in the packet and that a final report on the Darling Lot should be ready by the end of July; reviewed Parkmobile contract update and that Passport, a new parking vendor, contacted staff to give a presentation on their products; and that it is ideal for one more board member to join the committee.

Marketing Committee – The Downtown Director reviewed that the report was in the packet and that the committee heard an update on website consultant; that a new blogger had been interviewed; that billboards have had good results with advertising; and reviewed a potential downtown Petoskey calendar fundraiser for 2023.

Organization Task Force – The Downtown Director reviewed that the report was in the packet and that the consultant team of Allyson Brunette LLC was in town during the month of June and conducted a strategic planning exercise with the Board and also met with staff, Task Force and stakeholders in the community; and that there will be an hour-long presentation at the next meeting with the consultant's final plan.

Hear City Staff Report

The City Manager reviewed that he has met many stakeholders in the community; reviewed items from the July 18 City Council meeting and that Mayor Murphy acknowledged Mikey Griffes as “The Kite Flying Ambassador”; that Public Safety Director Breed presented updates from the Michigan Street traffic study; appointed members to various boards and commissions and designated Mike Robbins, Public Works Director as the Acting City Manager in his absence or inability to serve; that City Council approved a State of Michigan Waterways Grant Agreement and additional funding for removal and replacement of fuel storage at the Marina; that paving on State Street began today dependent on weather; that East Lake Street reconstruction project is ongoing; that there was a significant water main break at Water and Ingalls Streets; and that there is a grassroots driven fundraising project for the Winter Sports Park improvements.

Hear Public Comment

Chairperson Slocum asked for public comments and heard a concern from Mighty Fine Pizza business owners and the lack of parking in front of their building, challenges for their delivery drivers, safety concerns for employees and general traffic and are looking for options to help with the situation.

Board members discussed matter, inquired if there were more concentrated issues during certain times of the day and invited business owners to the Parking Committee meeting to further discuss concerns.

There being no further business to come before the Downtown Management Board, this July 19, 2022, meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.