

**RECORD OF
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY/GRAYLING MAIN STREET
PROCEEDINGS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE
12th DAY OF AUGUST, 2021
1020 CITY BOULEVARD, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN**

I. Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Tremonti at 8:31 A.M.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Baum, Swander, LaFontaine, Pettyjohn, Tremonti, Podjaske and Stonehouse
Members Absent: Shaw and Millikin
Also, in attendance: Main Street Manager Gosling, City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson

III. Public Comment

None

Reappointed Members Tremonti and Member Pettyjohn sworn in

IV. Approval of Agenda

21-037

Moved by Swander seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

V. Approval of Consent Agenda

DDA/GMS Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2021.

21-038

Moved by Podjaske seconded by Swander to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

VI. Treasurer’s Report

A. Revenue/Expenditure Report through June and July 2021

Member Pettyjohn stated there was nothing major to report at this time.

21-039

Moved by Baum seconded by Stonehouse to accept and file the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

VII. City Manager Report

City Manager Baum explained the Steering Committee is a group that works on trail projects. The Committee is meeting this week and will discuss having a trail come through the city. The plan is to hold a public input meeting about the idea, as well as, have a planning grant for the engineering of the proposed path. The outline is to make Grayling a 'Trail Town Destination'.

Kirtland Community College will be holding a ribbon cutting event [flyer presented] on September 11th for the new activity center.

Podjaske has been working with a developer for the Hospitality House property.

- Pettyjohn was eager to view the proposed renderings for the Hospitality House. Podjaske articulated that he would review the renderings after his meeting with the interested parties.

The DPW Director position is still open. There were two people who applied but, unfortunately, both backed out due to family and/or housing issues.

The River Festival and Canoe Marathon went very well this year. People were very excited to be back out in the city and enjoyed the events.

- LaFontaine had mentioned to try to include Rolling Oak more in downtown events. Gosling did confirm that Rolling Oak is included in the Downtown area. LaFontaine also discussed if there was a way to add some lighting to their area. Maybe even donate some money to get the nice lights like the 100 and 200 block have. Baum added that the 300 block should get lights as well. Unfortunately, to add lights down to Rolling Oak would mean that a power pole would have to be placed on the opposite side of the street.

VIII. Main Street Manager Report

A. Monthly Report

Mainstreet Manager Gosling verbalized a T-Mobile grant for Hometown at approximately \$50,000 per project is now open. The T-Mobile grant would be a suitable match for implementing more lights towards Rolling Oak.

- Swander had wondered if the parking lot lighting was off the table or still an option? Podjaske disclosed that it was off the table for now. Gosling came in with an alternative plan to possibly (with the help of a T-Mobile Grant) to combine the two goals to reach a happy medium.
- LaFontaine had wondered what the City's responsibility is in the case of lighting, in which Baum replied that he would look into that question.

Gosling exclaimed the Harvest Festival is coming up soon and she is looking for volunteers (as always) but she is very excited to host the event.

In Birthday news, Grayling will be 150 next year – which means a month of events is really going to celebrate Grayling and its community members.

The Block Party during Riverfest made \$190.00. The beer tent ran out of cups quite quickly but did do around \$20,164 in sales.

- Baum suggested having more food available during the evening hours of beer sales. Tremonti and Gosling will have meetings with the ladies from The Chamber for an after-action review of events. Members had all received positive feedback from participants.

Baum quizzed Gosling on the Art Explosion. Gosling informed him that the Art Explosion will be the last week of the month and the banners will be changing. Baum wanted to make sure that any banner requests would go to DDA/Main Street.

Gosling informed the committee that there was a compliment from City Council Member Schreiner regarding the canoes on the crosswalks. He said he was hearing fabulous feedback from visitors during the River Festival. He'd also like to see those same designs a little more permanent because of the aesthetic it brings to the area.

A quilting group had inquired about using the Nature Center for a couple meetings. It's a small group of women that would just like a nice space to chat and be crafty. The group doesn't count as an *organization* and would not be allowed to use the Nature Center. Gosling proposed that maybe Main Street could 'sponsor' the group so they would be able to use the space.

21-040

Moved by Pettyjohn seconded by LaFontaine to sponsor the quilting group to use the Nature Center.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

IX. Unfinished Business – DDA/Main Street

A. State of Properties

Gosling announced the Sawmill has received approval and will be receiving funding.

A record store is now open in the 234 Michigan building.

The former Tip-N-Mitten store has a new owner.

A new stylist will be moving into the Brickery.

A new fabric/yarn store is set to open downtown.

Swander did wonder what was going on with the Harp store, but Gosling did not have any information to share.

B. MainStreet Manager’s Office

Still at City Hall at this time.

C. Social District

After some additional business permits are finalized, a large-scale push of the district will start. Baum wanted to remind Gosling to have an in-person conversation with the business owners in the district to address any concerns or questions. Gosling agreed.

- Swander and Gosling discussed the Social District signage: it was a 10-12 week wait at the time it was ordered.
- There will be 5,000 12 & 16 oz cups coming in soon!

D. Mainstreet Manager (Director) Review

Has not been completed

X. New Business – DDA/Main Street

A. Election of Officers

a. Chair

Tremonti asked if there were any nominees.

21-041

Moved by Pettyjohn seconded by Podjaske to nominate Tremonti for Chair.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

Tremonti asked if there any other nominees. There were none.

21-042

Moved by Swander seconded by Pettyjohn to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

21-043

Moved by Baum seconded by Swander to appoint Jill Tremonti as Chair.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

b. Vice Chair

Tremonti asked if there were any nominees.

21-044

Moved by Podjaske seconded by Tremonti to nominate Josie Swander as Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

Chair Tremonti asked if there were any other nominees. There were none.

21-045

Moved by Baum seconded by Podjaske to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

21-046

Moved by Podjaske seconded by Baum to appoint Josie Swander as Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

c. Secretary/Treasurer

Tremonti asked if there were any nominees.

21-047

Moved by Podjaske seconded by Baum to keep Jack Pettyjohn as Secretary/Treasurer.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 2 Nays: 5 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,
Motion Failed.

Chair Tremonti asked if there were any other nominees.

21-048

Moved by Pettyjohn seconded by Tremonti to nominate Christine LaFontaine as the Secretary/Treasurer.

21-049

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,
Motion Carried.

Chair Tremonti asked if there were any other nominees. There were none.

21-050

Moved by Baum seconded by Tremonti to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,
Motion Carried.

21-051

Moved by Pettyjohn seconded by Swander to appoint Christine LaFontaine as the Secretary/Treasurer.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,
Motion Carried.

III. MS Committee Report

A. Org Committee – Member Swander requested that another member take over.
No update at this time.

B. Design – Member Pettyjohn presented documents for members to choose between two designs. Baum had asked if either of them was capable of holding a ‘time capsule’. Gosling will investigate this idea further.

C. EV (Economic Vitality)/Promotions –No updates.

IV. Community Meetings Update:

A. CCEDP- No Report

B. Historical Museum – Did not attend meeting

C. GPA – Member Tremonti released the information about the craft show October 2nd and the Labor Day Junk in the Trunk events. The Christmas Walk be a topic in the next meeting. Gosling mentioned that it would be nice to see more retailers involved in the Christmas Walk this year.

V. Public Comment – None

VI. Member Comments – Pettyjohn might not be in attendance at the September meeting. Baum asked Podjaske if there was any updates on the MEDC tour but, alas, Podjaske had none. He did explain that the MEDC tour is a community visit to highlight items in Grayling in order to verify how important MEDC is to the community and their assistance in projects is greatly appreciated.

VII. Correspondence

None

VIII. Adjournment

21-052

Moved by Pettyjohn seconded by Podjaske to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0, Absent: 2, Vacancies: 0,

Motion Carried.

Chairperson Shaw adjourned the meeting at 9:55 A.M.

Lisa K Johnson
City Clerk/Treasurer