

LAWRENCE DDA MEETING

MARCH 27, 2024

157 N PAW PAW STREET

Meeting called to order at 5:40pm with the following members present: John Gritter, Mike Chappell, Kim Thompson, Steve Petersen, Dale Gribler. The following members were not present: Theresa Stroud, Chris Sariano, Gary Barton, Phil Glinnie.

MINUTES: Motion by Steve supported by Mike to approve the DDA minutes as presented, Carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: No financial information was available. Dale will ask Amy to forward the monthly bank statement to members. (attached)

FARMERS MARKET: Jan and Anne are progressing on a market manager transition plan

FAÇADE: the committee reviewed the current façade grant programs that has not been updated since its inception in 2005. The revisions are: 1) ensure residential properties are included in the document, 2) increase the paint only program to \$1,000, 3) increase the Repair and Restoration grants to up to 50% match and increase the grant maximum to \$3,000. 4) Stike the FAÇADE LOAN PROGRAM.

Motion by Kim supported by John to revise the Façade Improvement as written above. Carried

The committee agreed to allow Kim and Dale to prepare a mass mailing to all property owners in the DDA district in hopes to see residential and business properties are updated utilizing the grant program.

STREETSCAPE: the committee received a wayfinding sign proposal from Valley City Sign. The consensus of the committee was to approve the concept however felt the Village Council needs to ultimately approve the concept. It should be noted that the recommendation by this committee to the Council is to review and approve the concept only, not the project as we have other pressing items that need attention such as the parking lot and drainage on Exchange Street.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: no report. Easter egg hunt was Saturday, welcome presentation to Soule Farms Sweets. Discussion on having community fireworks at the school Labor Day weekend and then transition to 4th of July Fireworks in 2025. The Committee liked this idea. Will discuss with Phil when he returns. LPS Superintendant in favor of this to bring the community together.

NEW BUSINESS: the electrical panel near the Cook/Ellis building for the lights has severe interior water damage. This was discovered when Alpha Electric completed their annual maintenance of lights. Motion by John supported by Mike to have Alpha Electric replace the panel and breakers at a cost of \$1,745. Carried

The DPW requested 6 new 6' picnic tables for the park. Motion by John supported Steve to purchase 6 tables from Meyer Wood Products at \$219 each. Carried

The DPW found permanent steel benches to be installed around the park however the information was not in the DDA folder. Dale reported when looking at the items with Brian Johnson the benches were just under \$1,000 each. Kim mentioned that because of potential delivery issues and the items are budgeted we should give approval. Motion by Kim supported by John that we authorize the DPW to order 6 permanent steel benches not to exceed a total cost of \$6,000. Carried

Further discussion about community members interest in sponsoring a bench with the placement of a metal remembrance tag affixed to the bench. Consensus of the group was to allow this for \$500 donation.

OLD BUSINESS: none

Meeting Adjourned at 6:50pm next meeting April 24th at 5:30