



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2024**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday April 11, 2024, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President N. Durley-Rust at 8:02 a.m. with Directors L. Rowan, M. Weinrick, K. Kovacs, A. Clark, R. Stern and R. Caron present.

Absent: M. Morrison and P. Sala.

R. Stern made a motion to approve the absences of M. Morrison and P. Sala. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Sean Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, and Brian Shier-Farmers Market Manager.

Agenda

M. Weinrick made a motion to approve the agenda. A. Clark seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment – None

Consent Agenda

L. Rowan made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 3/14/2024, bills for approval 3/1/2024-3/31/2024, financial reports as of 3/31/2024, and audited financials fiscal year 2023. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

March 2024 Bills:

ACA Jumps	\$ 250.00	Heartland Services	\$ 1,118.05
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$ 38.09	Marquette Monthly	\$ 185.00
Aramark	\$ 255.58	Marquette Wallpaper & Paint	\$ 24.71
Baraga Telephone Company	\$ 6.97	Michigan Downtown Association	\$ 600.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 129.94	Midway Rentals	\$ 382.54
Board of Light & Power	\$ 2,335.77	North Country Disposal	\$ 455.00
C. Pesola LLC	\$ 1,850.00	Otis Elevator	\$ 1,015.38
Capital One Commercial	\$ 427.54	Peninsula Fiber Network LLC	\$ 343.06
Cardmember Service	\$ 4,255.31	SEMCO	\$ 510.42
Charter Communications	\$ 79.98	Staples	\$ 69.76

Yesterday, the DDA received 12 large flower planters. These planters will be easier to water and give us some placement flexibility as we phase out half baskets on tree guards.

The DDA is considering purchasing benches that convert to picnic tables for farmers markets and events.

Operation Director – The Guest Permit type has gotten some use. The Pier Lot Permits signs are ready to be installed and then the discount permits will be sold. We will be collaborating with the library in June to have a parking app teaching session as part of their senior tech help program.

Business Development and Promotions Director Planning is underway for upcoming events. The DDA is part of the Fourth of July Committee. This is a very impactful event for downtown businesses. The public perception is that the city puts this event on, but that is not the case. Funding and sponsorships are needed.

Farmers Market Manager - The Saturday market is almost full, and Brian will start working on Wednesday market vendor applications soon. A new Market Member program is being launched. For a donation of \$100, members will receive a pin which gets them special benefits at the market and discounts on our merchandise. The membership sale is Saturday, April 20th, from 9 am to 1 pm.

Public Comment: None.

Board Member Comment: A. Clark is excited for Art Week and the Rosewood installation. She is looking forward to the Farmers Market. L. Rowland is happy we are moving forward with the Wayfinding Signs. She is excited to see downtown full this weekend with the Angry Bear Festival. R. Caron declared winter over, and he is excited to see the season change after an “awful” winter. M. Weinrick had no additional comment. N. Durley-Rust is looking forward to summer events as winter was a slower season. She is also looking forward to Angry Bear. R. Stern is looking forward to summer and events. K. Kovacs reminded board members that this year is the City’s 175th anniversary. On July 4th the city will be opening a time capsule from 25 years ago. Community Services is working on gathering new items for the next time capsule.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi Lanciani, Operations Director