



Negaunee Downtown Development Authority Special Meeting November 20, 2023 Minutes

The Negaunee Downtown Development Authority was called to order by DDA Chairman Gary Nelson at 5:30 PM, on November 20th, 2023. Present were authority Members Gary Nelson, Pete Munson, Ryan Nummela, Blake Becker, and Nate Heffron. Absent: Mike Ridenour.

DDA Members reviewed the new Member Roster with the corrected terms.

DDA Member Pete Munson made a motion to approve the minutes from October 31, 2023. Seconded by DDA Member Ryan Nummela. Motion Passed.

DDA Member Nate Heffron gave an update on the financials.

DDA Member Blake Becker made a motion to accept the financial report. Seconded by DDA Member Pete Munson. Motion Passed.

The DDA Member Nate Heffron and Consultant Mona Lang gave an update on the Downtown Enhancement Project.

Two applications were received by the DDA for consideration of board membership. Only one of the applicants are eligible at this time.

The DDA Member Ryan Nummela made a motion to recommend to the City Council to appoint Melissa Kuhlman to the DDA, term to expire in 2028. Seconded by DDA Member Gary Nelson.

The DDA reviewed a Commercial Rehabilitation District Tax abatement application for Sturmer LTD LLC.

DDA Member Ryan Nummela made a motion to recommend to the City Council that Sturmer LTD LLC be granted a 4-year tax abatement as afforded under the Negaunee Commercial Rehabilitation District Tax Abatement Program. Seconded by Pete Munson. Motion Passed.

Consultant Manon Lang brought a new grant program to the DDA offered through the MEDC. The Match on Main Program Grant be made available to businesses downtown for various activities. The grant is only available to communities that have achieved their RRC certification. In order to apply for the grant, the DDA would need to authorize the establishment of the grant.

DDA Member Pete Munson made a motion to establish the Match on Main Grant Program. Seconded by DDA Member Ryan Nummela.

DDA Member Ryan Nummela made a motion to set the upcoming meeting schedule for the DDA as follows: Bi-monthly, on the 4th Monday of the month, meetings held at 9:00 AM, starting in January of 2024. Seconded by DDA Member Blake Becker.



DDA Members Nate Heffron and Pete Munson gave an update on the upcoming Tinseltown event.

DDA Member Nate Heffron and Consultant Mona Lang gave an update on the Heikki Lunta event.

DDA Member Nate Heffron gave a brief report on the downtown property updates.

Board member Comments: Ryan Nummela made comments concerning the new lights downtown and how they look great. Blake Becker made comments about possibly limiting the time allotted parking downtown. Consultant Mona Lang made comments on Gary Nelson providing a report to City Council on DDA activities and congratulated the city on achieving its RRC status.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.


Nate Heffron