**Negaunee Downtown Development Authority Special Meeting**

**May 16, 2022 Minutes**

The meeting of the Negaunee Downtown Development Authority was called to order by DDA Chairman Gary Nelson at 5:30 PM, on May 16th, 2022. Present were authority Members, Mike Ridenour, Gary Nelson, Marybeth Kurtz, Pete Munson, Ryan Nummela, Haley Thomas, Nate Heffron. Absent: Ben Snapp

DDA Member Mike Ridenour made a motion to approve the minutes from April 25, 2022. Seconded by DDA Member Marybeth Kurtz. Motion Passed.

The DDA reviewed one application for the Downtown Economic Development Grant:

 A. 212 Iron Street (Smarty’s Saloon)

DDA Member Mike Ridenour made a motion to award a $25,000 grant request to 212 Iron Street. Seconded by DDA Member Ryan Nummela. Motion Passed.

The DDA heard a request for sponsorship from Patti Kainulainen and Donna Bjork from the Irontown Classic Car Show. A request to sponsor the event and provide some funding was made.

DDA Member Pete Munson made a motion for the DDA to sponsor the Irontown Classic Car Show event to be held on September 10th, 2022, with $500 in funding to be appropriated towards the event. Seconded by DDA Member Mike Ridenour. Motion Passed.

DDA Member Nate Heffron and Consultant Mona Lang gave a presentation to the DDA and the general public about the prosed Social District. DDA Chairman Nelson, opened the meeting to public input and questions about the Social District.

Public Input:

Clark Gravidoni-Supports the idea, but doesn’t think it will benefit him or hi business.

Anna Mattson-Had questions concerning Ericson Park, porta johns, and training the city will facilitate.

Scott Soeltner- think that this would be best for just special event only.

Dave Kangas-Questioned if any ordinances would need to be changed if adopted.

Bianca White-Wonder who would provide the cups and had other question concerning cups.

Kevin Johnson- Had comments on liability, who issues the licenses, and whether or not club can participate.

Paul Jandron- Asked question about police coverage and where porta johns would be located.

Dana LaLonde- Asked question concerning liability.

Laura Jandron-Asked how this will help the businesses or if it would only help bars.

DDA Chairman Nelson, closed the public input session concerning the Social District.

DDA Member Marybeth Kurtz made a motion to recommend to the City Council to create a Social District and to adopt the Management and Maintenance Plan for said Social District. Seconded by DDA Member Mike Ridenour. Motion Passed.

DDA Consultant Mona Lang gave a presentation to the DDA on the proposed marketing and Branding Plan.

DDA Member Ryan Nummela made a motion to recommend to the City Council to adopt the proposed Marketing and Branding Plan. Seconded by DDA Member Haley Thomas. Motion Passed.

Board Member Comments:

DDA Member Pete Munson commented on the Social District, supports the idea and that he was not totally for it when he first heard about it.

DDA Member Mike Ridenour commented on Scott Soeltner project

DDA Member Marybeth Kurtz thanked the public for showing up and participating.

Public Comment:

Anna Mattson commented that she was disappointed that the new logo did not contain the Mather B headframe.

Dave Kangas Spoke in favor of the social district.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

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Nate Heffron