



Negaunee Downtown Development Authority February 25, 2019 Minutes

The Negaunee Downtown Development Authority was called to order by Nate Heffron at 6:05 PM, on February 25th, 2019, at the Negaunee Senior Center. Present were authority members Nate Heffron, Gary Nelson, Pete Munson, Jeff Plummer, Scott Soeltner, Maryhanna Ockerman, and Marybeth Kurtz. Absent: Darrell Barber and Haley Thomas.

DDA Member Gary Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by DDA member Marybeth Krutz. Motion Passed.

DDA Member Gary Nelson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 24th, 2019 DDA meeting. Seconded by DDA member Marybeth Krutz. Motion Passed.

Discussion was held on the proposed Downtown Streetscape Conceptual Design. Mr. Tim Knutsen and John Iacoangeli from becket and Raeder were present via phone to help answer questions concerning the design. Several areas were discussed specifically in the plan and some areas of concern were relayed; Mr. Knutsen will make changes accordingly. DDA Member Heffron asked if the group felt comfortable forwarding Mr. Knutsen's final design to the City Council without further discussion since this was only a conceptual design. The rest of the group agreed that it would be appropriate to forward the finalized design.

Discussion was held on the proposed Downtown Plan and Tax Increment Finance District. Mr. John Iacoangeli from becket and Raeder was present via phone to help answer questions concerning the plan. Mr. Iacoangeli explained where the current DDA boundaries are under the City's current ordinance. He also explained that the development area will mirror the DDA boundaries. Mr. Iacoangeli said that that it would behoove the DDA to recommend passage of the proposed Downtown Plan and Tax Increment Finance District as soon as possible in order to capture funds for the district by 2019. If the DDA waits, funding for the district will not be available for two more years. The Group discussed various activities that could be conducted under the development plan portion. It was decided that the group would forward any additional projects they would like to see by this coming Friday (3-1-19). In addition, a special meeting will be held on March 4th, 2019, to discuss the proposed plan for possible recommendations to the City Council. Mr. Iacoangeli also explained how the tax increment finance funds district activities.



The Next DDA meeting will be on March 4th, 2019, at 6:00PM, at the Senior Center.

Public Comment:

Debbie Filizetti asked a question concerning why the senior center was not included in the Downtown District. DDA Member Heffron explained that when the original ordinance established the district did not include senior center. He further explained the time needed to expand the current district would not correspond with the timeframe in mind to start collecting revenues for the DDA in 2019.

Debbie Filizetti made a general comment that she was happy to see the DDA reactivated.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Nate Heffron

