

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF WEST BRANCH CITY HALL, 121 N. FOURTH
STREET, TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2019.

Chairperson Samantha Fabbri called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.

Present: Members Joanne Bennett, Joe Clark, Mike Cozad, Samantha Fabbri, Autum Hunter,
Sandy Rabidue, Erin Resteiner, Ken Walters, and Cathy Zimmerman (arrived at 12:35).

Absent: Members: None

Others present: Manager Frank Goodroe, Clerk/Treasurer Dantzer.

* * * * *

**MOTION BY FABBRI, SECOND BY CLARK, TO EXCUSE MEMBER CATHY
ZIMMERMAN FROM THE MEETING.**

Yes – Bennett, Clark, Cozad, Fabbri, Hunter, Rabidue, Resteiner, Walters

No – None Absent – Zimmerman Motion carried.

* * * * *

**MOTION BY RABIDUE, SECOND BY RESTEINER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
FROM THE MEETINGS HELD JUNE 25, 2019.**

Yes – Bennett, Clark, Cozad, Fabbri, Hunter, Rabidue, Resteiner, Walters

No – None Absent – Zimmerman Motion carried.

* * * * *

**MOTION BY FABBRI, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE BILLS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$199.66 AND TO APPROVE REIMBURSEMENT TO SANDY RABIDUE
FOR MONEY SHE SPENT FOR DOWNTOWN ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$337.64.**

Yes – Bennett, Clark, Cozad, Fabbri, Hunter, Rabidue, Resteiner, Walters

No – None Absent – Zimmerman Motion carried.

* * * * *

Member Rabidue gave an update on the alley improvements

Manager Goodroe gave an update on possible changes to the administration fees and the maintenance contract, a fellowship update, a blight and code enforcement update, a laundromat demolition update, recommended joining the Michigan Downtown Association, the possibility of using Americore or Vista, spoke on the joint DDA, the need to look at the possibility of expanding the DDA boundaries, and holiday decorations.

* * * * *

Lindsay Miller of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) joined by phone at 12:15 pm

Ms. Miller went over MEDC options for project funding which included the Public Spaces/Community Places program and the Public Facilities program. Ms. Miller noted that the Public Space program was typically used for projects less than \$100,000 and required local donations to be received up to \$50,000 and then the program would match up to the \$50,000 while the Public Facility program was typically for projects for more than \$100,000 and was a much longer process and required a local match of 10%-20%. In addition, she noted there were DNR grant options that could work with these programs for additional funding.

Ms. Miller also spoke on some community development programs including mixed use development programs, facade programs, rental rehab programs, and community revitalization programs which will help pay for interior and exterior updates.

Ms. Miller spoke on other MEDC programs such as Michigan Mainstreet, and Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC)

Member Zimmerman arrived during Ms. Miller’s presentation at 12:35 pm and it was noted that the previous motion to excuse her was not needed any longer.

* * * * *

Member Clark spoke on blight, how good the parking lots looked, and the possibility of having a rain garden added to the Pocket Park.

* * * * *

MOTION BY ZIMMERMAN, SECOND BY RESTEINER, TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION.

Yes – Bennett, Clark, Cozad, Fabbri, Hunter, Rabidue, Resteiner, Walters, Zimmerman.

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried.

* * * * *

Member Hunter left at 1:34 pm

Member Zimmerman left at 1:35 pm

* * * * *

A communication on the type of garbage can recommended by DPW Superintendent Killackey was shared.

The Board discussed looking at the window signs for vacant buildings again

* * * * *

Chairperson Fabbri adjourned the meeting at 1:40 pm.