

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
HELD IN PERSON AND VIRTUALLY AT THE WEST BRANCH CITY HALL, 121 N FOURTH ST.  
ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Samantha Fabbri at 12:03 pm.

Present: Anthony Bair (virtual-West Branch COVID), Joanne Bennett, Joe Clark (virtual-West Branch COVID), Samantha Fabbri, Autum Hunter, and Sandy Rabidue.

Absent: Erin Resteiner, Ken Walters, and Cathy Zimmerman.

Others present: City Manager John Dantzer

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**MOTION BY RABIDUE, SECOND BY HUNTER, TO EXCUSE MEMBERS RESTEINER,  
WALTERS, AND ZIMMERMAN FROM THE MEETING.**

**Yes – Bair, Bennett, Clark, Fabbri, Hunter, and Rabidue**

**No – None      Absent – Resteiner, Walters, and Zimmerman      Motion carried.**

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**MOTION BY FABBRI, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM  
THE MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 28, 2021.**

**Yes – Bair, Bennett, Clark, Fabbri, Hunter, and Rabidue**

**No – None      Absent – Resteiner, Walters, and Zimmerman      Motion carried.**

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The Board went over the monthly treasurer’s report.

Chairperson Fabbri updated the Board on a recent meeting she attended with Manager Dantzer and John Iacoangeli from Beckett & Raeder to go over funding options for the streetscape plan.

Chairperson Fabbri also noted her concern, that as leaders in the community, they need to be encouraging and positive in their outreach to the community in regards to the Houghton Ave. reconstruction and road diet plan.

Member Bennett voiced her support of Chairperson Fabbri’s thoughts.

Member Rabidue spoke on the Fireman's Memorial and shared a thank you from Nancy Griffin for helping water the flowers at the Memorial.

Member Rabidue also discussed the option to add wintergreens in the downtown flower beds. It was the consensus of the board to have Member Rabidue look into some decoration ideas.

Member Hunter asked about looking further into the historical district designation for the downtown. She further noted that her husband, Darrin Hunter, at the request of the Board, has done some research on the program and offered to continue to work on the program if the Board wanted to look into it further. The board discussed there were still lots of questions on the program and it was the consensus to continue to gather information. Member Bair shared some information on research he did and the board noted they would like to hear from Mr. Hunter on what he found during his research of the program.

Member Bair noted his agreement with Chairperson Fabbri's thoughts on the road reconstruction and stressed the importance of education in the community.

Member Clark noted his concerns with the historical designation and noted the downtown is currently a mixture of historic and new elements.

Manager Dantzer presented a rough draft of a façade improvement program as well as some programs from other communities. It was noted the information was provided so the board could start to think about and discuss what they would like to see for their plan.

Manager Dantzer also gave an update on the Christmas decorations.

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The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 pm.