

# DDA Meeting Minutes

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Called to Order at: 7:05pm

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Roll Call:

Present: Dawn Bodnar, Dan Nivelte, Brett Lundgren, Mike Saker, Mike Ridley, Sheree Lincoln, John Breitbarth

Absent: Kelly Ashford. Scott Lange

Approve Agenda Motioned: Brett Supported: Mike S. All in Favor

Approve December Minutes as Amended: Motioned: Mike Seconded Brett All in Favor

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Financials

Financials were not presented due to Scott Lange's absence.

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Old Business

**Update on the Streetscape Project:** Dan Nivelte presented document with determinations from the Walkabout with Gordie Frasier's Engineers (GF), Road Commission (RC) Representatives and several DDA Members on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

Mike Ridley asked Mr. Chadwick of the RC if he thought the County will split the cost of the new plans with us or is that something the DDA will have to absorb? Mr. Chadwick said that question would have to go before the Road Commission Board. Mike R. and a others noted that they could not get some answers today from GF and others due to holiday.

Dan Nivelte said we need to go to the County RC and address who pays for the plans. Mike R. Agreed that we should submit a letter regarding same.

It was also brought up that Alex Nikolaff from TAP Grant Team had questions about the amount of lights that we have planned. It was noted that the approximate number of lights on the plans originally was believed to be 55 lights and that it may now be 60.

Dan asked if we do not get the grant will we still owe the \$189000? Mike R. Said there is a note in the contract regarding that. Please see attached proposed contract and notes from the Walkabout on Thursday, January 28th, 2016.

Mike R. said we need to have a plan B as a goal should be to still have a Streetscape. Others agreed and a discussion of what that might look like followed.

Dan suggested as option B bury utilities, new sidewalks, leave road as it is and freshen the look. Mike Ridley brought up we would still have to consider new lighting.

Motion was made by Mike S. for Mike R. to present a letter to the RC to see if they are willing to continue to help us with engineering costs. (By splitting the costs). Motion was seconded by Dawn B. All in favor.

A general discussion was held regarding the proposed new contract from GF regarding the Streetscape. Discussion included such items as: Had the DDA had received \$25820 of value from GF on the first contract. What work was still not done and whether said work should be part of the existing contract. Engineering fees as per the attached communication from Craig Goodrich outlining engineering fee trends of up to 17% with GF indicating they believe the project can be completed at 13%. GF engineering proposal attached.

Dan N. suggested we go back to GF and get clarification of when they start billing for new services. Mike R. will discuss with GF that the DDA would like all of the cuts, driveways and other features be brought up to date as part of the old contract. This will make decisions on project billing with regard to whether it is part of the old contract or the new one more clear. It should also make it easier to understand the budget more clear moving forward and help make the project much easier to manage for both the DDA, the GF and the RC.

Sheree L. provided a list of questions to all DDA members by email. The list was printed out to go over during the meeting to help clarify issues with regard to signing the new contract with GF. The DDA board went over these one by one; many were answered in the contract itself and through discussions held before going over the list. Issues that were not able to be answered became part of the list of questions for Mike R. To clarify with GF and RC.

John B. asked if the Streetscape project was originally planned to increase parking? Mike Ridley provided a chart of spaces that he came up with estimates from current drawings and notations from the recent Walkabout with GF engineers. Existing plans have 180 parking spaces. Modifying plans would leave rear angle spaces in front of Pollards, Primerica/Mike Daves Barber shop, across from the Library providing a total of 171 spaces (counting those already installed in front of Chamber of Commerce) Mike roughly estimates that we will gain 30 spaces overall. The overall DDA sentiment is that issue of the total number of spaces after all the cuts and other updates to the plans is the responsibility of GF engineers and further noted that this information had even requested on many occasions and not supplied to date.

John B. initiated a discussion regarding whether a safety study of the proposed Streetscape design would be done in the best interest of risk management and responsible money management. Sheree L. also submitted a copy of Diagonal Parking Review Process for Local Agency Projects referencing a detailed engineering review process. This document had been supplied by Alex N.

From the Tap Team as the latest guidelines he believed were to be followed on local roadways like Straits Highway. The regulations and safety note provided by GF engineers appears to only apply to MDOT controlled roads only. DDA board requested Mike R. to speak with Alex N. for confirmation. If the Diagonal Parking Review document applies then the review it outlines could be used in lieu of a Safety Study. Safety Study costs had been previously quoted from several sources at \$40,000 to \$50,000 with one reference to \$12,000 to \$15,000. This will be further discussed after receiving clarification from the TAP TEAM.

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## **New Business**

Dan N. shared with us a reminder that all correspondence or questions for RC or GF should be brought before the board for review and then submitted as decided by the board.

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## Public Comment

John A Chadwick, Road Commissioner for Cheboygan County RC: Acknowledged that bump outs are typically done at a crosswalk and not just for the sake of back in angle parking. He also noted that the overall public opinion he is hearing is that if the Streetscape included all parallel parking no one would question the project.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:52PM

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Sheree Lincoln

DDA Secretary