

MINUTES
ST. IGNACE DDA MEETING
May 17th, 2019
(unofficial)

Members Present: Chairman Jim North, Vice Chair Mayor Connie Litzner, Pat Ramsay, Linda Bell, Phil Ruegg, Heather Aukeman, Cheryl Schlehuber, Secretary Barb Yshinksi, Barb Brown,
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: DDA Director Scott Marshall, Museum Director Shirley Sorrels
Others Present: Erich Doerr from the St. Ignace News, Betsy Hart, City Manager Mike Stelmaszek, Luke Paquin

Chairman Jim North called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

I. MINUTES

Motion by Aukeman; support by Ruegg to accept the minutes of April 23rd, 2019. Motion carried.

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Scott Marshall, Cheryl Schlehuber

III. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Motion by Ramsay, support by Litzner to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

IV. BUSINESS:

Excuse Absent Members – No absent members

Connors Park- Marshall reminded the board that the DDA received a \$2500 grant from the St. Ignace Community Foundation and now has received \$4000 from the Sault Tribe 2% grant committee to repair and improve Connors Park. Marshall will work with the DDA Project Committee for their input and ideas.

Street Light Update: Marshall contacted the light fixture representative to confirm that the correct order was placed and to inquire on the estimated delivery date. Marshall said the lights should arrive just after car show and the correct lights were ordered.

Welcome Sign Update: Marshall reports that Vital Signs has confirmed that the sign has been ordered and should arrive around June 10th. Vital Signs also stated that the mason should be able to start on the project within a couple weeks.

Little Bear Park Update- Marshall believes the recreation director is close to bidding out the project.

Cruise Line Update- Marshall reports no new information. Board discusses possible entertainment for cruise lines. Brown suggests a historical brochure for visitors.

Railroad Grade Recreational Trail- Marshall handed out the existing DDA Plan for short term goals which lists the development of a recreation trail on the railroad grade as a primary goal. Marshall suggested forming a committee to make sure that the project doesn't lose momentum. Litzner, Marshall, Betsy Hart and Alex Iseri are on the committee.

Star Line Parking Lot: North stated that he met with Fetty, Lora Brown and Marshall in regards to leasing the parking lot on the north side of Ace Hardware. North reports that Star Line is anxious to see this happen. North suggests a 3 year lease of which the DDA would pay \$5,000 per year. The DDA would get first right of refusal if the property is ever sold. Marshall and Fraser are looking at possible options for repairing the parking surface. Star Line would make the bathrooms available and the city would be responsible for cleaning the bathrooms whenever the bathrooms are available. North also stated that Star Line would post "Free Parking" signage at the Star Line parking lot across from the First National Bank. Marshall reports that the Visitors Bureau would waive the \$3,000 financial contribution for summer music and the Visitors Bureau would pay the cost for table tent advertising.

Azzar Boardwalk Lease- Marshall reported that Mr. Azzar contacted Marshall by phone and they had a pleasant conversation. Mr. Azzar said he would meet with Marshall in a couple weeks to discuss the situation. North said we may have to give Mr. Azzar concessions while trying to get a 5 year lease.

St. Anthony's Pocket Park Update- Marshall reported that he contacted the owners of Zak's Kandy to schedule a meeting to discuss the stairway and fence. The owner was very happy to hear from the DDA. Ruegg suggests matching the stairway rail with the rod iron fence around St. Anthony's Rock. Marshall plans on addressing the fence project first and will bring more information to the next board meeting.

Museum Manager's Report- Sorrels updated the board on the latest activities and grants. Sorrels stated that she intends on painting the front of the museum. The museum was painted in 2000. The museum will be opening May 24th. Sorrels would like to have an interactive theatre in the back of the building.

Additions to the Agenda-

Schlehuber informed the board that there is a local businessman who provides insecticide spraying services. He may be interested in offering a discounted rate to downtown businesses.

Ruegg inquired on the status of the bat house project. Marshall said he would find out more information.

Marshall gave each board member a copy of the Peddlers Ordinance. Betsy Hart discussed the current ordinance and the food truck popularity. Marshall stated that we need to support our local restaurants. Brown reminded the board that

there are certain state and federal laws to consider especially for veterans.
Motion by Schlehuber and support by Brown to form a committee to review the peddler's ordinance. Motion carried.

Marshall reminded the board that his 2019 DDA budget is geared towards sidewalk, boardwalk and park repairs. Marshall updated the board on the sidewalk fence in front of the Indian Village. Marshall said that the fence is rusty and needs immediate attention before it becomes a safety risk. Litzner said that the DPW has a long list of projects. She suggested that the DPW should hire a seasonal employee to address some of these maintenance issues. The DDA would split the cost and the employee would spend 50% of his time on DDA projects. Marshall asked to be involved in the process and Litzner agreed. North said that this wouldn't need a motion since the money is in the budget for these repairs and would be paying DPW either way. All agreed.

Other – None

Public Comment –None

There being no further business: Meeting adjourned at 10:00AM

Respectfully submitted: Barb Yshinski