

MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES
Regular Meeting of April 16, 2019
At Melrose Township Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Chair Broc Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Jonathon Borisch, Mike Strobel, Steve Whittaker, Judy Goldsmith, Bob Vratana, Dave Rentschler, and Katy Ross.

Members absent: None.

Also present: Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

II. ELECTION of OFFICERS:

Mike nominated Broc Johnson for Chair, Steve Whittaker for Vice-Chair, and Judy Goldsmith for Secretary. Dave seconded the nominations. With no other nominations offered, **the three were unanimously elected by voice-vote.**

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Jonathon Borisch motioned, Dave Rentschler seconded, to approve the minutes of November 12, 2018 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Tom reviewed the financial statements.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Township Purchase of Circle Park: Vern reported the Township Board will be discussing this at their next Board meeting and will likely schedule a public hearing in July.

b. US131 Mettler Property: Vern noted the Township should soon have clear title to this property.

c. Sidewalk Extension from Church to US131: Vern has discussed with Aaron Nordman of Performance engineers and is waiting for a response. He will follow-up.

d. Irrigation System for Beach / Park: Broc reported Haley Irrigation and Performance engineers are ready to start the project. We have the necessary DNR permit but still need MDOT's approval. The project should be under way by our next meeting.

- e. **US131 / M75 Intersection Concerns:** Vern reported a recent April 8th public information meeting with Triston Cole, MDOT representatives, and about 50 citizens went very well. MDOT realizes something needs to be done to address safety concerns.
- f. **Landscaping in Front of Post Office:** Bill goldsmith addressed the poor condition of landscaping in front of the Post Office, between the sidewalk and M75. Vern suggested installing pavers since road salt seems to be killing off the grass in this area. Bill has 3 quotes from various landscape firms for consideration. After discussion there was a consensus to pursue a low-maintenance, long lasting solution. Dave agreed to work with Bill on a formal proposal.
- g. **Public Act 57 Compliance:** Broc introduced the topic and noted a summary of new reporting requirements is included in the meeting packet. Broc also encouraged members to attend a meeting in Charlevoix next Monday morning hosted by Northern Lakes Economic Alliance. The meeting includes a presentation by the Michigan Department of Treasury on compliance to the new public act.
- h. **History walk in Circle Park:** Project is in progress. Need to finalize sign terminology.
- i. **Brochure Update:** No specific plans have been presented for updating brochures, but our budget includes money for this if something develops.
- j. **US131 Corridor Update:** Broc reported the US131 Corridor Committee is requesting short videos for their social media site that would feature anything we want to promote. Broc suggested video production may best be handled by a professional and estimated a 2-minute feature would cost \$1,600 to \$2,500, depending on how extensive we want to get. Jonathon indicated he already has drone-video of last year's 4th of July activities. Dave suggested this is something we could submit now while we're developing other content. We then discussed various locations to promote.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Village Development:** Jonathon reviewed proposals now under consideration for future development in the village. These include a multi-purpose (residential and commercial) structure on M-75 across from the hotel, three residential structures east of (behind) the parking lot, storage and worker housing in the snake-pit property behind the park, and a commercial/residential structure next to the General Store. This phased-development plan would be constructed over a period of years.
- b. **Vehicle Speed Study for the Village:** Vern reported the Township will be considering approval of a vehicle speed study for the village at their next meeting. The study is expected to take place in May.
- c. **Community Events / Promotions:** Jonathon reported the 6 generic banners that are on display year-round are badly deteriorated and should be replaced. He estimated the cost at \$500. Following discussion and recognizing money has been budgeted for this type of expenditure, a consensus developed to proceed with replacement. Jonathon will ask Dean Hicks to order them.

d. **Future Project Discussion:** Steve presented his ideas for this summer's car show on the 1st Saturday of August. He's been pursuing different exhibitors this year to provide more variety. This led to a general discussion of sourcing for both cars and boats.

VII. **DDA COMMENTS:** Vern reported that Bob Vratana has submitted his resignation from the DDA. Vern will be offering a nomination for consideration by the Township Board to fill the vacant position.

VIII. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Charles Zimmer suggested we contact Charles Phoenix about cars to show. He has hundreds of old cars and may be interested.

IX. **NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday May 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

Judy Goldsmith, Secretary