



**CANTON TOWNSHIP
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Minutes of the
March 17, 2021 Meeting**

The meeting was held via videoconference due to Covid-19. It was called to order at 8:00 A.M. by Chair Person, Bart Patterson

Present: Steven Brock, Laura Giove, Anne Marie Graham- Hudak, Seth Kleinglass, Bart Patterson, Wedad Suleiman, Mark Waldbauer, Janet Volante

Absent: Dianne Cojei, Andy Hargreaves, Kurt Olson

Staff: Amy Hamilton, Kerri Romanko

Guests: Jade Smith

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

MOTION: by Laura Giove, supported by Janet Volante, to accept the agenda.

AYES: All present

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2021 MINUTES

MOTION: by Mark Waldbauer, supported by Steve Brock, to approve the February 17, 2021 meeting minutes.

AYES: All present

CITIZENS' NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION: by Janet Volante, supported by Laura Giove, to accept payment of bills.

AYES: All present

CONSIDER PURCHASE ORDER TO FRANK'S LANDSCAPING AND SUPPLIES LLC FOR IRRIGATION REPAIRS

Amy Hamilton gave the board a brief overview of the aging irrigation system. She said the DDA irrigation system is seven miles long and has had plenty of leaks and broken heads. Because the system is old we anticipate more of the same, a blanket purchase order gives us the ability to streamline repairs and more easily pay invoices. She offered a reminder to the group that the whole irrigation system will be updated when the new Ford Road boulevard is constructed, at that time we should no longer have these kinds of continuous problems.

MOTION: by Mark Waldbauer, supported by Seth Kleinglass, to approve PO to Frank's Landscaping for irrigation repairs.

AYES: All present

CONSIDER PURCHASE ORDER TO FRANK'S LANDSCAPING AND SUPPLIES LLC FOR PROPERTY ENHANCEMENTS

Amy Hamilton said that Frank's Landscaping sent the quote for spring flowers early this year since there is a shortage on supplies due to the impact of Covid-19.

Anne Marie Graham-Hudak asked if there are any other options that might save money for the DDA such as indigenous plants that are less money, hardier and require less watering.

Amy Hamilton said that we focus only on the intersections along the DDA corridor as a way to save money. She said grass has been planted along the decorative walls and other areas in between the intersections because plantings didn't survive well in those areas and became too expensive to maintain. Amy went on to say that the community has given outstanding feedback regarding the spring and fall intersections plantings and how much they really enjoy and appreciate it.

Seth Kleinglass talked about the trials we have had in the past with plantings. He recalled the DDA board working directly with Lee Thurston, Canton Townships previous Landscape Architect, and already tried indigenous plants among other things. Laura Giove, Janet Volante and Seth all agreed that those options have already been explored and were not successful. Anne Marie Graham-Hudak said she would still like to look into other options.

The board collectively agreed to continue with the flower plantings at the intersections for now and continue to look into alternatives for the future.

MOTION: by Mark Waldbauer, supported by Diane Cojei, to approve PO to Frank's Landscaping for property enhancements.

AYES: All present

DDA COORDINATOR'S REPORT – March 12, 2021

- **Public Art Jury** – The 2021-2022 selections have been made! I've attached a flyer of the new pieces along with their locations to this report. Thank you all for participating!
- **Open signs** – Now that the closures have been lifted, I've asked Frank's Landscaping to collect the "we're open" signs. We are going to store these for future use.
- **Fall Shred Event** – We have received a lot of calls asking about the next shred event. Now that the vaccine is starting to become more available, is the board comfortable with planning one for the fall?

**The consensus of the Board was to move forward with a shred event in late summer or early fall.*

- **Brookline, Elmhurst and Marlowe** – Bids are open! They open on March 11 with a closer date of March 25. Once the bids have been submitted, I will share them with the board.
- **New Business Update** –First the sad news, as I'm sure you've heard, JC Penney and Love's Furniture are both closing. Now some good news, French Toast Bistro is going into former Scrambler Marie's, Culver's is moving forward in Meijer's parking lot, Chik-Fil-A is looking to build next to Buffalo Wild Wing and there is talk of a hotel project on Lilley just north of Ford.

**Jade Smith, Director of MSD, said Canton is working with MDOT to address traffic concerns related to Chik-Fil-A. Multiple site plans have been received and there is a lot of push-back from Canton.*

ADDITIONAL CITIZENS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

N/A

ADJOURN

MOTION: by Seth Kleinglass, supported by Janet Volante, to adjourn
MEETING CALLED TO ADJOURN at 8:28 A.M.