

CITY OF CHARLEVOIX
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND MAIN STREET SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Chair: Maureen Owens

Members Present: Sean Bradley, Kirby Dipert, Liam Dreyer (virtually from Charlevoix), Ron Way, Paul Silva (virtually from Grosse Pointe, MI at 5:37 p.m.), Amanda Wilkin

Members Absent: Sam Bingham, Richard Christner, Luther Kurtz

City Staff: Lindsey Dotson, Executive Director

4. Inquiry Regarding Potential Conflicts of Interest

5. New Business

A. Recommend Amendment to Ordinance Prohibiting Alcoholic Beverages in Public Parks

Chair Owens stated there were meetings last week with the City Manager, Police Chief, DDA Director, Chamber of Commerce President and herself to work through the discussion of a social district. As part of that process there have been requests made to consider amending the Ordinance that currently prohibits alcoholic beverages in public parks to allow it. She stated that the draft Ordinance language was included in the Board meeting packet. This would enable local businesses to sell to-go beverages so that patrons could legally enjoy them in Bridge or East Parks. She stated that the DDA needed to recommend the amendment to City Council so that they can start the process of considering it at their next meeting scheduled for June 7th.

Member Bradley questioned the language in paragraph (C) regarding prohibiting consumption of alcohol in East Park, Bridge Park or Hoffman Park and Director Dotson explained that certain events require a special use permit.

Member Wilkin commented that the goal was to promote more business for restaurants, and she questioned if this allowed people to drink any beverages in public. Chair Owens responded that to-go beverages would have to be purchased from the restaurants.

Member Dreyer felt that they were pursuing an avenue of profit at the expense of public comfort. He polled some Charlevoix High School students and of the total 38 responses, 73.7% were in favor and 26.3% were against.

Rich Bergmann, Round Lake Group, stated that restaurants were still under a 50% capacity limitation until July and having capacity to conduct their business is very important to all the business owners, so he supported the Ordinance change. He wanted to make sure it was not just being viewed as profit for just the restaurants.

Motion by Member Bradley, second by Member Dipert to recommend/support moving forward with amendments to the Ordinance that will allow consumption of alcoholic beverages in downtown public parks. Motion passed by a 6 to 1 vote with Member Way voting against the motion.

B. Movie in the Park Consideration

Chair Owens stated that there was a request for a budget to tentatively obtain a movie or show in East Park in conjunction with Venetian Festival for Main Street Thursday pending City Council approval of the overall event. She stated that this would require an amendment to the DDA budget in the amount of \$500 - \$1,000 depending on the film chosen.

Motion by Member Dipert, second by Member Way to participate in Main Street Thursday movie in East Park pending City Council approval of the Venetian Festival. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

9. Public Comments

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

11. Board Comments

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.