

CITY OF CHARLEVOIX
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND MAIN STREET MEETING
Monday, August 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Chair:	Maureen Owens
Vice Chair:	Richard Christner
Members Present:	Sam Bingham, Sean Bradley, Kirby Dipert, Luther Kurtz, Paul Silva, Ron Way, Amanda Wilkin
Members Absent:	None
Non-Voting Student:	Liam Dreyer
City Staff:	Lindsey Dotson, Executive Director

4. Inquiry Regarding Potential Conflicts of Interest

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes
- B. Monthly Report
- C. Committee Minutes
- D. DDA Financials

Member Bradley stated that the third sentence under New Business, Item 8A, should start with Member Bradley rather than Member Dreyer. Motion by Member Wilkin, second by Member Bradley to approve the Consent Agenda items as corrected. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

6. Reports

A. Director's Report

Chair Owens thanked Community Development Fellow Dean Martin for his assistance over the last 18 months and stated that he has been a great resource.

B. Accreditation Information Session Report

Member Dreyer reported on the highlights and key takeaways from the virtual session he attended provided by the Michigan and National Main Street Associations to discuss the new Accreditation Standards. He stated that accreditation was mandatory to reap the benefits of the Main Street Program and he explained the new Community Accreditation Process and Standards. Discussion followed regarding concerns and the value of the accreditation process and the requirements to become and remain accredited.

Member Dipert stated that "as far as Main Street goes, I think the sizzle's gone". He felt attendance at Committee meetings was diminishing and that their need to be in Main Street was not as pressing as it once was. Member Dipert suggested the Executive Director should investigate what steps would be needed to withdraw from Main Street.

Chair Owens recalled that Main Street began as historic preservation and Charlevoix had a very strong historic preservation organization; the DDA had enough other things going on. She suggested Director Dotson identify other things she could do as the DDA Director besides Main Street tasks. Director Dotson stated that they would be eliminating the requirement of having any committee meetings or volunteer input sessions which would in turn eliminate any affiliated programming. Chair Owens questioned whether there would be an opportunity for Director Dotson to investigate creating their own brand process or any other affiliations.

Member Dreyer felt that they were doing very well as a Board. Member Silva agreed with Member Dipert but it was a big decision and they should weigh the pros and cons.

Motion by Member Dipert, second by Member Bradley to direct the Executive Director to look into the benefits, pros and cons of remaining within the Main Street Program. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Member Wilkin stated that she attended the accreditation session and had two takeaways: how to get more community involvement and creating more efficiencies.

7. Old Business

A. Bigbelly Stations

Director Dotson stated that one Bigbelly unit has 150 gallons compacted capacity compared to four regular garbage cans. They have approximately 60 cans throughout the downtown area, 30 of which are the non-decorative oil drum cans with wooden lids. She stated data showed that a person will not walk more than 25 steps on average before being inclined to litter which means there should be a

can every 60'. She stated six additional stations were needed to have one per downtown block which would replace 24 oil drum or decorative cans. She stated that the total cost for six double capacity stations was \$53,340, and if the City covered half the cost, the upfront investment for the DDA would be \$26,670.

Motion by Member Wilkin, second by Mayor Kurtz for the DDA add this to their discussion of the budget for FY 2022/2023. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

8. New Business

A. Bridge Railings

Director Dotson reported that they never requested an estimate for stripping and repainting the bridge railings. She stated that the City was responsible for the maintenance of the bridge. Member Silva felt that they were *Charlevoix the Beautiful* and the bridge looked like crap. He recalled that 15 years ago it wasn't painted, and someone wanted it to be "Charlevoix Green" and donated money to have the bridge painted. He noted that MDOT told him that they will not touch the bridge. He felt that they needed to paint the bridge instead of spending money on new garbage cans. Discussion followed including whether Public Works could do the work, or a contractor would be needed. Chair Owens stated that she would ask the City Manager his stance on this issue, and they would have to get an official estimate for the cost of the work.

9. Public Comments

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

11. Board Comments

Chair Owens requested that the Board receive future meeting packets by Thursday instead of on Friday.

12. Adjourn

Motion by Member Christner, second by Mayor Kurtz to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Joyce Golding/fgm

Maureen Owens

Chair