



VILLAGE OF SUTTONS BAY
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Amy Peterson at 9:55 a.m.

Present: Lambdin, Lutke (arriving at 9:55 a.m.), Peterson, Pontius, and Wierzba
Absent: Bahle and Popke
Staff present: Fay and Larrea

Approval of Agenda

Pontius moved, Lutke seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 5, No: 0.

Approval of DDA Minutes dated February 12, 2020.

Pontius moved, Lambdin seconded, CARRIED, to approve the DDA meeting minutes dated February 12, 2020, as presented by Petroskey. Ayes: 5, No: 0.

TAP Updates

The TAP project is/was an MDOT project. Contractors were chosen by MDOT; therefore, MDOT will deal with the contractors to fix or complete things like concrete and asphalt. Contractors will return in the fall to complete the project. MDOT has requested the Village remove language from our street signs, specifically "state law". Staff have covered up the language. New trees were not part of the MDOT project. The Village planted new trees that were native and that do not exceed 25' in height, with a root system that grows downward. Utilities run along one side of M-22 so there are not trees on that side. There are lights on that side. Peterson asked about the sidewalk color discrepancies; the pavement is curing. Peterson asked if the Village could add more greenery to soften the look. She further requested the dimensions for banners on the light poles. Pontius believes that potted trees were part of the plan and he would like to revisit the idea; perhaps business sponsored potted seasonal trees. Lambdin believes the downtown looks sparse, and suggested adding columns of sorts that flower pots could hang from or more light poles. Larrea supports downtown beautification.

Viking Cruise Line Discussion

The Village was contacted by Viking Cruise Lines who has evaluated the Village and its water, and deemed it as an ideal spot for a place to anchor and offer excursions, with a projected date of 2022. The boat contains 100 cabins. Larrea will have a Zoom meeting with Viking Cruise Lines and will discuss issues such as necessary infrastructure, bus parking, bathrooms and Cruise line investment. Pontius mentioned Blount Cruise lines and the popular and growing interest in small cruise lines. Pontius stated that the Village has a Norwegian heritage. He believes that at one time the Village had plans for a bathroom at Marina park and that Front Street had been identified as a walkable place to hold festivals, etc.

Board members Comments

Peterson stated bathrooms continue to be an issue she hears about from customers. The bank next to the movie theatre is now closed and cited it as being a good location for an Information Center/Visitor Center and public bathrooms. Pontius concurred stating it would be a good location to house the Suttons Bay Chamber of Commerce, the Leelanau County Chamber of Commerce, and the Leelanau Peninsula Vintner's Association. These non-profits could be eligible for grants.

Announcements – Future meetings will be held on 9:00 a.m. as previously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Shar Fay, Village Clerk.