

**Copper Harbor Downtown Development Authority**  
Meeting **Minutes**  
October 15, 2024  
Grant Township Hall  
220 Gratiot Street, Copper Harbor, MI 49918  
906-289-4292

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:02pm

**Present:** Meg North, Staci Gibson, Art Davis, Kirk Filsinger, Mike Musiel, Sam Raymond

**Absent:** Ed Tulppo, Don Kauppi, Dan Wiersgalla

**Agenda & Minutes Approval:**

Motion to approve October 15, 2024 Agenda – Motion Art, Second Meg, All in favor

Motion to approve September 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes – tabled: will approve at November meeting due to printer technical difficulty

**Treasurer's Report**

DDA Fund Balance...\$94,345.27

**Old Business**

1. First Impressions Team (FIT)

a. Discussion

- Affirmation of some initiatives currently being worked on
- Public Restrooms, Access to Waterfront (including swimming) and Indigenous History were recurring new themes

b. Next Steps

- Indigenous History: Were native peoples inhabiting Copper Harbor and if so to what extent?
- Sam to ask Kaelyn to see if she'd be interested in being hired for narrative development
- Encourage/partner with Ft Wilkins to enhance/improve Lake Manganese beach for swimming, including ADA access to water. (Eagle Harbor is working on a similar MNRTF application that could be used as a guide)
- Work to develop a list of "Action Projects" – identify capacities and priorities while working to realize
- Continue work to enhance and expand upon Family Friendly Bike Trails
- Continue work on off-street parking, sidewalks & bike lanes
- Mike M. to research what it would take to provide town-wide public WiFi and will develop a proposal to share with the DDA. DDA to consider possible future compensation
- Consider hosting another Community Report Forum (May 2025 perhaps) to get more business owners involved
- DDA to provide feedback we'll receive privately & tactfully in regard to specific businesses
- Consider applying for another FIT visit during the winter

2. Ft Wilkins/Lake Fanny Hooe Trail Upgrade

- DDA letter of support for Copper Harbor Trails Club application with Keweenaw Community Foundation. Art motion, Staci second. All in favor.

3. Parking/Curb Stops for Park/Playground area

a. Moving playground fence back? Guy wires consideration

b. Creating parking in the grass area in front of brown storage building (?)

- c. DDA to request a proposal from OHM to develop a conceptual plan/map for enhanced off-street parking on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Streets, south of US 41. Explore feasibility of relocating HP Pathway from south end of 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Motion: Meg, Second Kirk. All in favor.

4. Bathrooms/parking area development on blocks 7,8 & 9.
  - Municipal wells are no longer a consideration
  - Otherwise, tabled discussion for this meeting

**New Business**

1. Proposal to purchase matching bike racks for west end of Donny Kilpela Park for purpose and also to prevent vehicles from driving on lawn. Meg will seek quote(s) for DDA to consider.

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjourn:** 8:00pm Motion Meg, Second Staci. All in favor.

Approved