



Grant Township – Copper Harbor DDA
DDA Meeting Minutes
August 23rd, 2022, 6:00 pm
Grant Township Community Center
220 Gratiot Street Copper Harbor, MI 49918
Phone: (906) 289-4292

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call

Present - Don Kauppi, Greg Mielcarz, Scott Ochodnicki, Mike Musiel, Sam Raymond, Alex Protzel, Kirk Filsinger and Staci Gibson

Absent - Art Davis, Ed Tulppo, Greg Lis, and Dan Wiersgalla

Zoom - None

Special Note: Scott Ochodnicki was appointed as Grant Township Supervisor at the August 9th Regular Township Board meeting.

Motion to Approve August 23rd, 2022 Agenda

- Motion put forward by Don K, seconded by Mike M, all in favor, Motion carries 8-0-0

Motion to Approve June 28th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

- Motion put forward by Greg M, seconded by Staci G, all in favor, Motion carries 8-0-0

Treasurer's Report – provided by Treasurer Misty Filsinger

- **DDA balance is \$107,718.58**
- Misty F encourages the DDA Board to fund more projects; Scott O has several ideas for upcoming agendas; Greg M mentions grinder pump funding which has been approved at the beginning of the fiscal year

Old Business

- Street stenciling project trial phase one completed, will seek additional funding prior to the spring of 2023
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Committee concepts next steps – holding pattern, awaiting detailed website page

New Business

- Elections 2022 update:
 - November 8th General Election will have the Township Supervisor and Clerk positions on the ballot along with 3 School Board positions

- Grant Township Election Commission is seeking Election Inspectors and Alternate Election Inspectors – Contact Scott Ochodnicky for additional information scott.ochodnicky@granttownshipmi.org
 - Election Commission to hold next meeting Thursday September 15th at 2pm
- Research needed for Township Supervisor's role within the Copper Harbor DDA, current Chair Scott Ochodnicky may need to step down
 - Alex Protzel brings up several questions regarding the resignation timeline of previous Township Supervisor Scott Wendt, as well as the Appointment process and timeline for current Township Supervisor Scott Ochodnicky; Misty F was told by the MTA that within 60 days was the timeline requirement and Alex P pulls up State of Michigan website showing that 45 days is the requirement; further research and MTA calls to follow
- Webinars from Michigan Downtown Association (MDA) can be accessed now
 - For general info: <https://www.michigandowntowns.com/>
 - Minimum Goal: One training video to be discussed at each meeting
- Public invite outreach DDA meeting tentatively scheduled for October 25th
 - Possible invites to include Copper Harbor Improvement Association, Copper Harbor Nature Society, Performances in the Park organizers, Fireworks show organizers, Pedestrian & Bicycle Access Committee Members, and others to describe their projects to the DDA Board and attendees
 - Provide brief history and overview of DDA plus recently funded projects and potential upcoming projects
- Starlink internet service
 - Broadband internet listed in 2010 DDA Amendment as an area of focus for the downtown
 - Further research and planning needed; possibly to go to the Township Board for discussion
- Alex P requests to go back to the 45 days requirement for Appointment of the Township Supervisor discussion; Staci G mentions the Township did their due diligence by asking the MTA, Sam R mentions it wouldn't change anything had it been done within the 45 days' time (12 days earlier), Misty F suggests to Alex P to attend the Township Board meetings so that he's more up to date on current Township matters
- Affordable housing solutions – Kickoff meeting this Thursday August 25th at 9am at the Copper Harbor Community Center - Listed in 2003 DDA Amendment as an area of focus - DDA Board Members are invited
- Fireworks show cleanup policy review (from July Township Regular Board meeting public comment) – after brief discussion, it's been determined that our current policies and procedures are sufficient for cleanup, 2 independent crews are sent out on the following 2 days each year
- Guest speakers: Jeff and Kathy Ihde from the Performances in the Park series event to provide update on their project and describe their needs for an improved stage and new sound equipment
 - Current sound equipment is borrowed from a local resident

- Requests funding for community owned sound equipment for all community events use, not just Performances in the Park series events; requests that the purchase be made locally, if possible
- To be stored in the garage at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park
- **Motion to approve purchase of up to \$5000 for new sound equipment** - put forward Don K, seconded by Sam R, **Roll Call Vote** – Don K aye, Kirk F aye, Sam R aye, Mike M aye, Staci G aye, Scott O aye, Alex P aye, Greg M aye, Motion carries 8-0-0 – Art D, Ed T, Greg L, and Dan W are absent

Public Comment Period – Kent says thank you for the invite, Don K inquires about the status of the kayak launch in the Harbor, Sept 8th is the Powers of Air at the Performances in the Park event

Motion to Adjourn - put forward by Don K, seconded by Kirk F, all in favor, Motion carries 8-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm

*Vote tallies recorded in Meeting Minutes as Aye/Yes - Nah/No - Abstain
(Absent excluded from tally)*