

CITY OF COOPERSVILLE
REGULAR DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
Coopersville City Hall; 289 Danforth Street, Coopersville, Michigan

FEBRUARY 11, 2014

Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M.

Present

Board member Cooper
Board member DeJong
Board member O’Dea
Board member Schmidt

Board member Slater
Board member Veldman
Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput
Director Patrick

Absent

Board member Du Pilka
Board member Hanenburg
Board member Reeves

Board member Spoelman
Chairman Koch
Marketing Director Richardson

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

Board member Schmidt moved to approve the January 14, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Board member DeJong seconded, motion carried.

Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput opened the floor to citizen input and suggestions.

Greg Gieske of Nunica commented as a vendor on the closing of the 2014 farmers market. He protested the action explaining that many of his customers were seniors from the Depot. He understood that the Coopersville market was small and cannot compete with the larger markets, but asked to keep it going to provide a way for Coopersville seniors to use their Project Fresh coupons. He asked if he could set up his wares at the Depot or another location in the city.

Discussion ensued on prioritizing the list of projects supplied by Director Patrick. He noted that there may be a consolidation on the W. Randall St. projects, and that when asked he recalled that Phase II for the pocket park included pavers by the clock, landscaping, walkways, and the underground infrastructure. Board member DeJong commented that he prioritized the list according to which of these would retain and attract business as the highest criteria. Board member Schmidt asked to add improving the downtown bathrooms and possibly adding a metal archway to the walk-through park in lieu of the coming bike-path. Board member Slater asked to consider adding the backs of the south Main Street businesses (facing the RR tracks) to the façade program. Board member Veldman indicated that the state of the existing pavers downtown has become a safety issue, and he thought that a ‘pocket plaza’ may make more sense long-term. Board member Schmidt asked for more information on the downtown sidewalk pavers repair item noting that the \$40K range for either removing or repairing them would be germane to the decision making. After further discussion, board members submitted their lists to be compiled.

Director Patrick gave an update on city infrastructure projects. He informed the board that Pam Blough has been contracted to work with OMM Engineering on street tree plantings on the W. Randall Street project, and that additional funding is still in the process of being secured. He explained how the Region 14—Rural Task Force determines project funding with Rural Development and that there is hope that sidewalk on the south side may be accomplished.

He applauded Michigan Dept. of Agriculture's Economic Development Specialist Mike DiBernardo's efforts to convene decision makers from MSHDA, MDOT and the MI-DEQ in Lansing for a meeting with Coopersville and Continental Dairy/Fair Life. He also commended Steve Cooper and his work on their presentation about the proposed improvements to W. Randall St. and its importance to Coopersville and this area.

Board member Schmidt moved to receive and file the February information packet which consists of draft City Council meeting minutes of 1/13/14; draft Planning Commission minutes of 1/20/14; and the permits issued for January. Board member O'Dea seconded, motion carried.

Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput again opened the floor for citizen comments. There were none.

Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput apprised the board of Board member Du Pilka's correspondence that indicated that "the demolition on 306 Main Street is well underway and coming along nicely."

Board member Schmidt proposed the idea to honor soon-to-retire Ken Ortquist by doing something nice for him for his 22 years of service and his many hours of volunteering downtown.

Board member Slater moved to adjourn. Board members Cooper and O'Dea seconded, motion carried with Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput noting that the "ayes" are above the "noes".

The meeting adjourned at 5:49 P.M.

Chairman Pro Tempore Verseput