

**VILLAGE OF PINCKNEY  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Oliver at 7:28 p.m.

Present: Deborah Grischke

Joseph Hartman

Christine Oliver

Donald Oliver

Trisha Wagner

Absent: Ted Kinczkowski (1 Vacancy)

Also Present: Julie Durkin, Zoning Administrator

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Grischke supported by Wagner

To approve the agenda as presented

VOTE: Ayes: 5      Nays: 0      Absent: 1      Vacancy: 1      MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS:** None

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Chairperson Oliver opened the public forum at 7:30 p.m.

Pam House of the M36 Rotary stated that there has been a lot of interest in the Light Up the Park event, but it is a larger project and no group wants to handle it on their own. Recently, Pat Carney and individuals from the Women in Business group approached the Rotary Club and proposed an event involving multiple groups. She would like to invite the DDA to be a part of that group. Regina Hamlet from Hamlet Lavender Farm has proposed a timeline. They have scheduled a meeting for March 7<sup>th</sup> with Putnam Township, Rotary Club, Women's Business Group and the Chamber of Commerce. They are inviting at least a representative from the DDA to attend. Pat Carney from Putnam Township further explained their tree decorating ideas, etc. that they would like to do in the park.

Nelson Edwards from the Rotary Club stated that they have a fundraiser event for the Farley Hill Food Pantry on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$75 per person for dinner and theatre with the proceeds going directly to the food pantry.

Hearing no further comment, the forum was closed at 7:35 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. St. Patrick's Day Parade – Request for funding

Zoning Administrator Durkin stated that we have a request from Susie Tennyson for funds to pay for the pipe bands. She stated that the request is for \$1,700. We budgeted \$1,500. The Board could approve the full request which would require a budget adjustment or simply approve the \$1,500 and they could seek additional sponsors for the remaining \$200. It was stated that there are two bands.

Discussion was held on the cost of the pipe bands and possible increase from last year. Durkin stated that we were given no detail and no representative is present to answer questions. The budget is a planning document and can be amended. It is up to the board to make the expenditure.

Discussion was held on the event being very successful and bringing a lot of people to town. Discussion was held on what was supported last year. Durkin stated that some of the sponsor funds from the previous year were carried over due to the fact that the parade could not be held because of COVID. We would have to look back to see the amount spent last year.

It was stated that we could approve the additional \$200 in March if there are not additional sponsors and ask that someone be available to answer questions.

Motion by Grishke, supported by Hartman

To approve the expenditure of \$1,500 for the Pipe Bands for the St. Patrick's Day Parade

VOTE: Ayes: 5      Nays: 0      Absent: 1      Vacancy: 1      MOTION CARRIED

2. Farmer's Market Discussion

Zoning Administrator Durkin stated that we have advertised for the approved position of Events/DDA Coordinator but have had no response. Spring is fast approaching and vendors are already scheduling their events. If we are going to have a market this year, some decisions need to be made.

Discussion was held on who is currently on the committee. Durkin stated that there was no committee established. It was an idea that a few people had and Rebecca helped coordinate the effort to make the market happen. Christy, our previous coordinator as well as others, worked hard to make the events successful. Durkin discussed possibly establishing a committee, possibly a sub-committee of the DDA and include active vendors, volunteers, etc. They would coordinate efforts between Village staff and the wishes of the committee which would include reporting back to this board and requesting funding. She further stated that the Board should take a more active role or step back and let another group take the lead and come to this Board and ask for permission to use the DDA property, request funding, etc., but leave it in the hands of an outside group. We cannot wait to see if we can get someone hired into the created position.

Barb Marcotte and Annette Weathers from Bad Fair Farm were present. They discussed meeting several people in the community garden and discussing the possibility of a farmer's market in town. They looked at where farmer's markets are in the area and decided to give it a try. For the first year, it was good, but it

could be better. They looked at concentrating on local grown produce and not necessarily crafts. They further discussed some of the things they learned from the first year and working with Food Truck Fridays. They indicated that if you don't want a market, then forget it because it is a lot of work. There are other alternatives for farmers in the area. Ms. Weather stated that one thing that could have been better was the cooperation with the downtown businesses whether that be setting up booths on the streets or encouraging participation.

Discussion was held on the need to have people to do the work including on hand the day of each market. Durkin asked if there was someone from the Board willing to step up and spearhead some of the discussions. She stated that a lot of information can be distributed and decisions made by email, not necessarily in person.

Discussion was held on what the process would be if another group wanted to conduct a farmer's market including the request to use the lot, request for funding, etc. or work in conjunction with the Food Truck Friday organizers. Discussion was held on any group needing to provide liability insurance in order to use the property for a function.

Discussion was held on the role of village hall staff in last year's market. Discussion was held on finding a volunteer to coordinate these efforts. Durkin stated that we have advertised a paid position with no response. It would be even more difficult to find a volunteer to take on the position. She discussed the difficulty in finding a paid volunteer to sit on the Planning Commission and DDA Board.

Discussion was held on the availability of the members. Zoning Administrator Durkin stated that what she is hearing is that the DDA Board has no desire to form a committee to handle the farmer's market. The Board concurred.

### 3. Approval of Payables

Motion by Hartman, supported by D. Oliver

To approve payables in the amount of \$5,734.23

ROLL CALL VOTE: Grishke – Yes, Hartman – Yes, Kinczkowski – Yes, D. Oliver – Yes, C. Oliver - Yes

Absent: 1

Vacancy: 1

MOTION CARRIED

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Chairperson Oliver opened the public forum at 8:01 p.m. Hearing no comment, the forum was closed at 8:01 p.m.

### **MEMBER DISCUSSION:**

Zoning Administrator Durkin stated that we have a new business in town where the Pinckney Nutrition had been. Earth's Energy has opened. They serve coffee, latte as well as other coffee drinks and have stones and

gems for sale. She has provided the new owners with some information about the DDA and our programs. She encouraged everyone to stop in, introduce themselves and enjoy a great coffee drink.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Hartman, supported by Grischke

To adjourn the regular DDA meeting at 8:02 p.m.

VOTE: Ayes: 5      Nays: 0      Absent: 1      Vacancy: 1      MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

---

Christine Oliver, Chairperson

---

Julie Durkin, Zoning Administrator  
Recording Secretary