

Village of Manchester
Downtown Development Authority
Unapproved Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2006
7:00 p.m. Village Hall

Members Present: Susan Fielder, Karen Hinkley, Karl Racenis, Pat Vaillencourt, Jody Flowers, Bob Wahr, Chris Fegan (arrived late)

Members Absent: Ron Milkey, Stephanie Beuerle

Others Present: Dwayne Vaillencourt, Marty Way

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Karl Racenis

Review of the agenda, added Public Participation. Motion by Wahr, 2nd by Flowers to approve as amended, all in favor.

Minutes of August 22nd amended. Motion by Wahr, 2nd by Fielder to approve as amended, all in favor.

Public Participation:

Dwayne Vaillencourt stated that he was very pleased with the meeting with Pat Sanders but is concerned with what the DEQ will allow us to do to clean up the mill pond. He stated that Bill Wagner had told him that barley bales will clean up algae with natural enzymes. He will further investigate.

Marty Way stated that the enhancement grant money was brought up at the Council meeting and he would like to better understand where we are with it. He agreed to defer an answer because this is an agenda item.

Old Business:

1. Parking Lots: Karl advised that Stephanie said the committee has cleaned up weeds and had the trees trimmed. They talked to property owners Chris Hoover and Tom Ellis and they share the cost of the dumpster. Hoover is interested in working with us. Ellis is concerned that any clean up work would increase his taxes. Sue suggested that the entire DDA Council should have been aware of the clean up and we should have had some newspaper coverage with photos. Pat will look for “before” pictures and take some “after” pictures.
2. Madison Street Waterfront Volunteer Project: Pat updated everyone on the emails from Pat Sanders as she pursues assistance in finding grants. There is a meeting with Steve Olds, a bank erosion expert from the State, on 10/4 at 8:30 a.m. Marty stated that there is a lot of concrete and junk dumped on that site and if we start trimming trees and taking out brush it

could look worse than it does. Pat voiced concerns that if we start a clean up project it could make us ineligible for some grant money. She stressed that we need to take our time and continue fact finding and creating a plan. She reminded everyone of the River Raisin Watershed Council meeting at the Village Hall tomorrow night.

3. Discussion on meeting dates. Motion by Wahr, 2nd by Hinkley that we meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Village Hall for the remainder of 2006. Karl distributed copies of the Community Calendar.

New Business:

1. MDOT Enhancement Grant:

Karl advised that he, Pat and Jeff Wallace met with MDOT and their engineers to discuss our 2 projects – M52 and Main Street. Karl reminded everyone that the match for M52 would be 20% Village, 20% MDOT and 60% Federal grant. There would be no MDOT funds for Main Street so the Village portion would be 40%. MDOT will be the official applicant for the M52 grant, the Village will apply for the Main Street grant but does need the input of a pre-approved landscape architecture. Jeff Wallace will be the front line person to put the proposal forward. We need to complete the application by Thanksgiving then there is approximately 3 month approval time. After the approval we would have 5 months to complete the detail design. Jeff will contact the MDOT engineering firm that is a pre-approved landscape architectural firm and set up a meeting. We should save money and time by using the same firm as MDOT. Reviewed the application and had discussion on how we will be able to assist Jeff. Consensus was that we will use the Consumers Energy lights but we need to make several other decisions that will probably need some input from a professional firm. Pat, Chris and the Village have some merchandise books for references. Karl will email information he has.

Reports:

Karl gave an update on the recent 55 acre rezoning request and the Scully property development. He also stated that the DDA map is incorrect as it doesn't show the railroad right of way. He will have it updated.

Motion to adjourn by Fegan, 2nd by Wahr, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Pat Vaillencourt