

VILLAGE OF PAW PAW
Downtown Development Authority
Regular Meeting July 21, 2008
BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE DDA OFFICES
129 S. Kalamazoo Street, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Roman Plaszczyk,
Ellyn Jones,
John Schincariol,
Harold Schuitmaker,
Courtney Buhl,
Pat Brennan,
Pat Lynch,
Don Rook,
Steve Racette,

Regular Attendees:

Larry Nielsen,
Jan Hoehn

Meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

There were no minutes available due to an administrative blunder. (sorry) Mary will e-mail them out to the board members on Tuesday July 22, 2008.

The bills were reviewed and approved.

Guests, Rene Rodriguez, Jerry Cox and Doug Squires were present to help clear up any questions about sign proposals. Rene pointed out that the board really needs to decide specifications and size of the sign that they want in order to get an accurate quote for their needs. Rene also explained the difference in a 35mm. sign versus a 19 mm. sign. 19 mm is a much better quality sign. Rene will work with Mary on trying to get some specifications for the signs. Discussion ensued after the guests left. Roman brought up the size and placement and the ability to get information out to the public. Pat Brennan brought up that a digital sign in this location could be a distraction to drivers and that a lot of people just pass those signs and don't really read them. He pointed out that \$15,000.00 – \$30,000.00 per is a lot of money when there are already several digital signs around town. He questioned if we'd use it enough to make it worth the money. Larry pointed out that we currently have 14 scheduled events sponsored by the DDA & Chamber. Don Rook pointed out the size of the signs in the proposals. They are much larger than we need. They are over 10 feet tall and should be scaled down. Steve Racette asked the board to make a decision about what it was they were looking for and wanted estimates on so that we could move forward. Jan said we need something out front to announce our presence here. People want to know where we are located.

Mary will get quotes for a smaller 4 x 8 digital (amber lettering) and sign as well as the 4x8 sign without a digital and a wrought Iron sign similar to that of Lora Stanek Wilson's law firm sign.

We currently have a façade application for Warner Vineyards-roof membrane and Captured Memories-decorative overhang and paint and Lakeside Inn – siding, paint, windows, pending. Don Rook reviewed the façade applications but a couple needed to wait for receipts and so they will tabled until those come in and there are other board members able to review them.

The Carnegie roof is in need of repair. Mary reported that during the Paw Paw Days rain storm water was flowing down the brick wall in the addition as well as from a spot directly over the stairs. Larry reported that John Small has contacted Goff (sp?) to come take a look at it. It was mentioned that Goff has been very good about standing behind their work. Larry reported that the decorative light poles behind the Village Hall were repainted due to a flaw in workmanship and John suggested that the rest of the poles in town would look nice repainted as well. The cost would be \$12,000.00 and they would carry a 10 year warranty.

There is a work plan for the trees downtown to be removed and replaced with a smaller variety. This needs to be done in the spring or the fall.

We have the new P.A. Systems (3 total) We did not use the new equipment for Paw Paw Days. Jan reported that the existing speakers kept cutting in and out and the D.J. had to run the sound through his own system which did not make him happy.

Larry and Mary have been working on Sunday Music by the lake. They have lined up 5 weeks of music through Ambassador Dave's Productions. The first week is the Skeletones – Motown and R & B, then Los Bandits – Tex Mex, Keith Scott Trio – Chicago Blues, Gypsy Fari Trio – Reggae, and Rare Combination – Celtic. Mary reported that she had tried to contact Steve Hadadd several times and he would not call back. We have no idea of the Thursday schedule or what they are being paid. Mary and Larry decided it would be easier if they made arrangements for the Sunday music themselves. The Sunday bands all signed contracts which included terms for rain outs as well dates, times, and rates. We pay each band \$450.00 and they play from 7 to 9 p.m.. Roman made a motion to pay each of the bands up to \$450 each supported by Pat. Lynch. The motion carried. Advertising was discussed and it was suggested that the DDA take out an ad. and include all summer music, bugle corp., Thursday free sounds and Sunday Summer music on the lake. Steve Racette offered to do the ad for 50% in exchange for sharing sponsorship of the events. The ad will run in color, ¼ page in the Courier Leader and ½ page in the flashes Motion by Roman was supported by Don. The motion carried.

The drum and bugle corp has now added one more corp from Sweden making 302 meals needed. Mary reported that her response from restaurants was very positive. Don Rook made a motion to increase the budget for meals to \$3000.00, supported by Courtney Buhl. The motion carried.

Larry and Roman drew up a lease agreement between the Village, the DDA and the Chamber. (see attached) The board looked it over Don made a motion to accept the lease agreement supported by Pat. The motion carried.

Jan reported that Paw Paw Days was a success despite the rain. There were over 120 cars that stayed and 69 trophies awarded. We even made a profit. There is a Chamber social hour scheduled for the 14th at Kevin's and a strategic planning meeting on October 8th at 9 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10