



Evart Downtown Development Authority

Chair, Alan Bengry
Treasurer, Lynn Salinas
Mark Sochocki
Dan Boyer

Vice-Chair, Gary Hartsock
Secretary, Brian Youngs
Corey Juliano
City Manager, Pepper Lockhart



Director, Todd Bruggema

www.evartmainstreet.com

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REGULAR DDA MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 8th 2025 @ 4:00PM

Evart Depot

1. Meeting called to order by Bengry at 4:00 p.m.
2. Attendance: Present: Alan Bengry, Gary Hartsock, Lynn Salinas, , Dan Boyer, Corey Juliano, Mark Sochocki, Brian Youngs Todd Bruggema (Director) Absent - Pepper Lockhart
3. Introduction of Guests: Angela Hunter, Teijin Wing
4. Citizens' Comments- None
5. Approval of agenda- agenda was accepted as presented
6. Approval of minutes – Moved by Salinas, supported by Hartsock to approve the minutes of the June 10th, 2025, meeting.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried
7. Approval of vendor's list- Moved by Hartsock, supported by Youngs to approve the vendors list in the amount of \$7,598.47 for the DDA and \$711.00 for the farmers market.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried
8. Treasurer's report-a petty cash transfer of \$16.30 was made from DDA funds to the farmers market. There are some journal entries that need approval to balance some budget lines.
 Moved by Youngs, supported by Boyer to approve journal entries in the amount of \$474.00.
 Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Results: Carried
9. President's comments-None
10. Committee updates
 Economic
 Vitality/Design
 - a. Farmers Market-June sales were \$9,718.00. EBT sales of \$155 and Double Up Food Bucks sales of \$110 plus Corewell amount of \$83. All the thermometers have been given away. SEEDS gave away measuring cups and will have an article in the paper about the market. Sand Bobs played on the 28th. Renee will no longer be employed in her state position later this year.
 - b. Pop-Up-has been listed for sale with Real Estate One.
 - c. Business Recruitment Primer-still in process
 - d. Benches have been placed along Main Street. Acknowledgement plaques for the OCCF have been attached. Many good comments have been received.
 Promotion/Organization
 - a. Shop Local- All Michigan Shop Hop is going well
 - b. Board recruiting- DDA still has one vacancy to fill
 - c. Volunteers-Bump Out garden volunteers are doing a good job.
12. Old Business
 - a. Real Estate One Façade Grant update-New sign has been installed and reimbursement has been made.
 - b. 101 S. Main St. update-Sochocki reported that a \$250,000 loan had been secured from the Fremont Area Community Foundation to assist with early project expenses. There is some CDBG money available from the state

that is being applied for. Goal is to have the project submitted to MEDC by October 1st, with construction to begin in spring of 2026. Plan to open the building before our August meeting to allow board members to view the condition of the building before the project begins.

c. DDA secretary position

Moved by Juliano, supported by Boyer to appoint Brian Youngs as DDA secretary for the balance of 2025.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

13. New Business

- a. Self-accreditation report-Reviewed the document and completed the self-scoring activity
- b. September 29-30 MMS workshop in Grosse Pointe-second day is for board members if interested
- c. Façade grant application-Bruggema reported that the application was not completed yet so will be coming at a later date.
- d. Strategic Plan Focus group meetings will be held on July 14th from 4pm to 7:15 pm. There are currently three separate groups scheduled to meet to provide feedback.
- e. Strategic planning meeting for board members will be July 15th from 8am to 12 pm.

14. Director's Comments-Bruggema stated that the Bump Out gardens and Community gardens are both going well. Approximately 200 people attended the Jake Slater concert.

15. City Manager's Comments-None.

16. Citizens' Comments-Teijin Wing asked about a succession plan for the student representative as he will be entering his senior year. Bruggema will meet with him about this.

17. Adjournment

Moved by Hartsock, Supported by Boyer to adjourn

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted by Alan Bengry

