

**MEETING MINUTES**

Cascade Charter Township  
Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors  
Tuesday, May 20, 2014  
5:30 P.M.  
Cascade Library - Wisner Center  
2870 Jacksmith Ave SE

**ARTICLE 1. Call the Meeting to Order**

Chairman Huhn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.  
Members Present: Rob Beahan, David Huhn, Diana Kingsland, Jennifer Puplava, Paula Rowland, Rick Siegle, Kirt Ojala  
Members Absent: Joanne Noto  
Others Present: Assistant to the Manager Sandra Korhorn, Township Engineer Mike Berrevoets, Landscape Architect Pat Cornelisse

**ARTICLE 2. Approve the Agenda**

**Motion was made by Member Beahan to approve the Agenda. Support by Member Kingsland. Motion carried, 6-0.**

**ARTICLE 3. Approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2014 Meeting**

**Motion was made by Member Puplava to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2014 Meeting. Support by Member Rowland. Motion carried 6-0.**

**ARTICLE 4. Review & Consider Old 28<sup>th</sup> Street Realignment**

Assistant to the Manager Korhorn reported that at the March meeting, the DDA voted to move forward with the realignment of 28<sup>th</sup> Street for 2014. In your packet is the current configuration and the proposed realignment. I am looking for a recommendation to the Township Board for the Board to review.

Mike presented the preliminary plan. The lane on Old 28<sup>th</sup> is being reconfigured for safety issues. The new lane would be closer to the westbound lane. The Road Commission has requested that we show a small semi-truck can make the corner. We need to relocate the flag and ground lights to the green space. We will replace the streetlight to the opposite side for consistency. We are trying to avoid sidewalks next to the curb. If there is an area where we are unable to move the sidewalk, we have widened it to move pedestrians away from the roadway. My question is whether we keep the sidewalk close to the retaining wall and fill in with sidewalk to cross the road as we start to eat up the green space. An alternative would be to merge the two into one sidewalk to cross the road. This would preserve the green space and allow additional landscaping.

(Member Siegle arrived at 5:45)

Discussion followed.

**Motion was made by Member Beahan to approve the plan which included one sidewalk and stamped concrete. Support by Member Kingsland. Motion carried 7-0.**

**ARTICLE 5. Review & Consider Museum Gardens Project**

Pat Cornelisse reported the updates to the Museum Gardens Project. The Road Commission has indicated they will allow us to move the curb out five feet to allow for a bike path that connects to the walking path. Three large trees, plantings, bike racks, sculptural pieces, musical interaction pieces, soft lighting and new bench seating will be added. Maintenance would be consistent to slightly more than what is currently needed.

Discussion followed.

**Motion made by Member Rowland to approve as presented. Second by Member Puplava. Motion carried. 7-0**

**INTRODUCTION OF WILL FROM GOLDFISH SCHOOL**

Assistant to the Manager Korhorn introduced Will, owner of the Goldfish School. Will and his family are interested in, and looking for, ways to support the township. Will is very supportive of the plan for the library area and wants to support that. Their family is looking for ways to get involved in the township. They have already been involved with the parade and fireworks. When visiting Tassell Park his wife saw the splash pad and thought maybe another one would be a great idea. If the plans get approved his family would like to get involved financially and with the naming of the pad.

**ARTICLE 6. Review & Consider DDA Plan Amendment**

There's a resolution the DDA needs to approve tonight. This resolution includes some language that would allow us to enter into an agreement with a developer. This would be a reimbursement type of program for public and ADA improvements. Assistant to the Manager Korhorn changed the language to: "provide development support to assist any private or public project that would help to accomplish the goals of the DDA." Assistant to the Manager Korhorn stated there is \$1.6 million in that category. Some dollars were reallocated from other projects to make up for that. Assistant to the Manager Korhorn is asking for the DDA to support this amendment which would then go to the Township Board for a Public Hearing; which would be held July 9. Staff would have to send notices to everybody in the district and post it to around 20 places in the district. Staff would also need to notify the Taxing Authority.

Discussion followed.

Member Puplava made a motion to approve the resolution for the first amendment to the DDA plan. Second by Member Siegle. Motion carried 7-0.

**ARTICLE 7. Review & Consider Cascade Rd./28<sup>th</sup> St. Intersection Improvements**

Assistant to the Manager Korhorn stated there were two options for the Cascade Road intersection: 1).an enhanced intersection or 2). a roundabout. Anything the DDA decides will have to go before the Board as well. The DDA had talked about the enhanced intersections being done for 2015. If the roundabout was an option, Assistant to the Manager Korhorn does not see that completed before 2016 at the earliest. Assistant to the Manager Korhorn included the conceptual plans in the packet tonight so you could recall what they both look like. Assistant to the Manager Korhorn needs discussion and resolution from the DDA.

Discussion followed.

Member Ojala made a motion to continue to focus on the enhanced intersection and leave the roundabout for future discussion. Second by Member Kingsland. Motion carried 7-0.

**ARTICLE 8. Any other business**  
a. Walkability Review

Assistant to the Manager Korhorn reviewed the events of the Walkability Review.

Member Rowland discussed one suggestion by the Review. In the downtown area there are businesses that are not appropriate for that area. The township could contact the financial institutions and movers and shakers of Cascade to see if they could come up with some investors who would be interested in putting in little micro-breweries and restaurants along the river, and use the property to the township's advantage. The township could then move those businesses that were inappropriate to an area somewhere more appropriate like on 36<sup>th</sup> Street, etc. The goal would be for the township to work with the financial institutions so there's a quid pro quo with moving in and moving out, and there's people there who are interested in investing their money. She thought that was a good way to make some changes.

Member Kingsland stated the people/businesses have their businesses located where it works for them and are not willing to move.

Discussion followed.

b. Street Sweeping

Member Huhn stated his concerns with dirty streets in the township and discussed getting street cleaners in 2-3 times per year.

Discussion followed.

c. Trash Pickup

Member Huhn is concerned with trash on township properties and would like to see the Buildings and Grounds Dept. take a more proactive approach when mowing to clean up any trash they come across.

Discussion followed.

**ARTICLE 9. Adjournment**

**Member Beahan made a motion to adjourn. Support by Member Kingsland. Motion carried 7-0.** The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Kingsland, Secretary  
Ann Seykora, Planning Administrative Assistant  
Debra W. Groendyk, Planning Administrative Assistant