

**Meeting Minutes
Cascade Charter Township
Downtown Development Authority
Board of Directors
March 16, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Cascade Library Wisner Center
2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE**

ATTENDEES: Rob Beahan, David Huhn, Julie Johnson, Diana Kingsland, Tom McDonald , Joann Noto, Rick Siegel.

Absences: Ron Clark (excused), Kirt Ojala (excused).

Others Attending: Assistant to the Manager Sandra Otey and Recording Secretary Lisa Hern

ARTICLE 1: Call the Meeting to Order

Chairman Huhn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 2: Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Huhn requested a motion of approval of the March 16, 2010 DDA Agenda. No revisions, corrections to the agenda and Member McDonald motioned to accept the minutes as presented, supported by Member Beahan. The agenda of the March 16, 2010 was approved as submitted.

ARTICLE 3: Approval of the Minutes of January 19, 2010 Meeting.

Chairman Huhn requested a motion of approval of the January 19, 2010 minutes.

Member Beahan motioned for approval of the minutes as presented, supported by Member Kingsland. All in favor of the January 19, 2010 DDA Minutes as presented; none opposed. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 4: Update of the 2010 Streetscape Project – Sidewalk through I-96 Interchange.

Assistant to the Manager Otey said that at the January DDA Meeting, Mike Berrevoets and Tony Kutzt were present to answer questions and discuss the lighting fixtures for this project. Fishbeck has completed a majority of the project work and plans. The plans are currently being reviewed by MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation), which is taking longer than anticipated.

Chairman Huhn asked if any of the DDA's plans would interfere with MDOT's plans at the interchange. Assistant to the Manager Otey said the DDA's plans will not conflict. Currently, MDOT is discussing the color on the bridge and will not make a commitment yet. DDA wall will remain grey until MDOT decides if they will be using coloring in their walls. DDA can choose the color for their wall after MDOT has selected theirs.

ARTICLE 5: Discussion of the Roundabout Meetings.

Assistant to the Manager Otey said letters have been sent to Independent Bank, Walgreens and Grenelefe Condominiums regarding a meeting to get their input and answer questions concerning the roundabout.

The business open house is set for Thursday, April 15th and the public open house is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21st. These open house meetings will be held at the Wisner Center from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. and the DDA board is highly encouraged to attend.

Member Siegel commented that the business owners in the area are concerned with the construction interfering with their business. Assistant to the Manager Otey said that they will have comment cards available at the meetings and the board can review the cards at the May 18th meeting.

ARTICLE 6. Discussion of DDA District

Assistant to the Manager Otey said that Township staff members have met with Dick Wendt, Township Attorney, in February to discuss DDA districts and what types of projects DDA money can be spent on. Dick was extremely helpful in the Township's "DDA 101" class.

While the DDA has projects forecasted, there are other projects that DDA money can be spent, such as providing broadband and wireless service throughout the district and operating and funding a marketing program.

Currently, the T.I.F. plan provides a list of streetscape projects (sidewalks, trees, lights) through the year 2024. Other projects include a boulevard in front of Meijer on 28th Street and mast arm traffic signals.

Staff would like the DDA Board to consider what, if any, projects they might want to add to the plan. Perhaps it would be helpful to have DDA Staff from another community come to a Cascade Township meeting to discuss what they are doing (i.e. City of Wyoming, City of Zeeland, etc.).

Assistant to the Manager Otey also noted that whether it is due to the roundabout or another project, the DDA is going to have to amend the TIF plan and suggested adding the items presented earlier.

The Board highly favored hearing from other communities regarding their plans, especially from those that have invested in broadband for their districts.

ARTICLE 7. Any Other Business

Assistant to the Manager Otey noted an article in the newspaper that featured Kirt Ojala and Centennial Park.

ARTICLE 7. Adjournment

Chairman Huhn requested a motion for adjournment. At 7:50 p.m. Member McDonald motioned for adjournment, supported by Member Beahan. All in favor with none opposed, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Hern, Recording Secretary

Approved as to form by:
Sandra Otey, Assistant to the Manager