

**CITY OF ST. IGNACE
DDA MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2023
City Council Chambers**

Members Present: Pat Ramsay, Quincy Ranville, Erik Heffernan, Tom Cronan, Kristi Graham, and Julie Lipnitz

Members Absent: Chairman Heather Aukeman, and Barb Yshinski,

Members Online: Cheryl Schlehuber

Staff Present: DDA Director, Ryan Sigmon; Museum Director, Tom Wyers

Others Present: Erich Doerr; City Manager, Scott Marshall

Meeting called to order at 8:02 AM by Pat Ramsay

- I. **MINUTES:** Motion by Cronan support by Graham to accept the minutes of October 13th, 2023. Motion passed.
- II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Graham – Holiday Open House. Sigmon – Garden Contract.
- III. **FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Sigmon reviewed the bills and the clerk revenue and expense Reports for October 2023. Motion by Cronan, support by Lipnitz to accept the financial report. Motion passed.
- IV. **BUSINESS:**
 1. **Excuse Absent Board Members:** Motion by Cronan, support by Graham. Motion passed.
 2. **Jonathan Munson, New owner of the Pavilion - Redevelopment Liquor License:** Renovations starting mid-December to early January. It will be a fully functioning brewery and coffee house. Beer will be brewed on site, along with a self-pour system for customers. There will be a roof top deck. The south end will be the coffee shop. Munson shared that they will be open year-round, and are aiming to open in May/June of 2024. There will be prepared food, but there will be no kitchen, with a possibility of using food trucks. The building will have restrooms, and the previous restroom agreement will need to be reviewed. Cronan called into question the parking available for customers. Marshall asked the board if they would make a motion to recommend to City Council that they would like Salty Mac Brewing Company to come to St. Ignace and to support Munson in obtaining a liquor license (Class C). Motion by Heffernan, support by Lipnitz. Motion passed.
 3. **Jake Brown – Presentation on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations:**

Brown is the Director of Business Development and Key Accounts for Cloverland Electric. Vehicles range from small sedans to pick-up trucks and Semis. Electric Vehicle range can drop by 40-60% in cold weather. There are three types of chargers. Level 1 – Slowest charger that plugs into a standard wall outlet. Provides about 3-5 miles per hour of charging. Level 2 – Slightly higher voltage than level 1 and is the most widely used option for EV owners. Provides 15-25 miles per hour charged. Level 3 (DCFC) – Fastest charging option, used for public charging. Can provide over 100 miles in 15 minutes of charging. Level 3 is about \$200,000 per unit. Brown discussed funding programs for 8 fast chargers in St. Ignace, which would be a \$2-3 million dollar project. The 1st round of applications are due December 4. 24/7 restrooms are required for this round. It was mentioned that St. Ignace might start to lose tourism without having EV chargers. More guidelines are coming from EGLE soon.

4. 2024 DDA/Museum Budget:

Motion by Ranville, support by Cronan to accept the 2024 DDA/Museum Budget. Motion passed.

5. Swing Set and Retaining Wall Update:

The project committee met with DPW and the opinion is to not move forward with a retaining wall, but to do signage for now. Sigmon is getting quotes on signage, and redoing quotes on swing set. Sigmon is looking into equipment for ages 2-5, and exploring moving the project to the south end of the park.

6. Community Clean Up Day:

Sigmon discussed having a clean up day on December 2 to help with cleaning after the Christmas event the night before at Little Bear. Sigmon is to connect with Cathy Lamb to pick a time. There will be a flyer created to get the word out about the volunteer opportunity.

7. Christmas Garland and Decorations:

Sigmon shared that the garland was in the process of going up and the Christmas tree decorations would be coming soon. Decorations are going up at the Museum and the Museum Pavilion. Motion by Cronan, support by Graham to allow for the Museum decoration purchase up to \$500. Motion passed.

8. Garden Contract:

Motion by Cronan, support by Lipnitz to accept the 2024/2025 Garden specs and to open up the contract for bids. Motion passed.

9. Holiday Open House:

Graham shared that she had reached out to other businesses, and there was lots of interest in doing a holiday downtown business open house event. She is going to look into either December 8 or 9 as the date for this event.

10. DDA Director Report:

Sigmon shared that the tree in front of the Driftwood was cut down and removed. The security cameras at St. Anthony's Pocket Park are up. The plaque for the William H. Barnum rudder was ordered. Sigmon stated that the MDA Conference

was great as it allowed him to learn about relevant topics and to network with colleagues across the state.

11. Museum Manager Report:

Wyers shared that in the past month they did \$14,369 in sales, and collected \$4,875 in donations. According to Wyers, the museum will finish close to last year's numbers. This winter there will be cleaning/painting done in the Museum. Another project for the offseason will be doing cultural teachings with Sault Tribe HeadStart. Wyers shared his initial plans for what grants he will be applying to in 2024.

12. Open Discussion: None

13. Public Comment: None

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM

Respectfully Submitted by Quincy Ranville