

**CITY OF ALPENA, DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY BOARD
APPROVED 6/1/2021**

Meeting date of May 4, 2021 @ 3:00 pm

Meeting was held at City Hall Council Chambers, 208 N. First Ave. All Board Members attended in person, but members of the public could attend virtually.

Present: Todd Britton, Jennifer Calery, Corey Canute, Joanna Cooper, Griffin James, Cristi Johnson, Mike Mahler, Rachel Smolinski, Matt Wojda

Absent: None

Staff Present: Anne Gentry, Kingsli Kraft

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chairman Mahler.

2. Citizens Appearing before the Authority: None.

3. Late Additions to the Agenda: None.

4. Social District Presentation: Gentry gave a presentation on the establishment of a Social District in Downtown Alpena, which would allow customers to purchase an alcoholic beverage from a licensee who receives a Social District Special Permit through the Michigan Liquor Control Commission and consume it in a publicly owned place or sidewalk. The presentation included details from the proposed Maintenance & Operations Plan and proposed boundaries, which were both included in the DDA Board Materials for review.

- Public Comment: No members of the public addressed the Board on the subject of the Social District.

It was moved by Britton and supported by Canute to support the creation of a Social District in Downtown Alpena as presented and to send to Alpena City Council for consideration. All ayes. Motion passes.

5. Review and Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting (April 2021): It was moved by Wojda and supported by James to approve the minutes from the April 2021 Meeting of the Board. All ayes. Motion passes.

6. Hearings: None.

7. Executive Director's Report: Gentry provided an oral and written report on Fresh Waves 2021 and the application timeline, the Small Business Showcase that was held May 2-8, this year's Blues Festival, and marketing and promotional activities of the last month.

8. Correspondence: None to report.

9. Review and Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports (April 2021): It was moved by Johnson and supported by Smolinski to approve the Financial Reports for April 2021. All ayes. Motion passes.

10. Committee Reports

- a. Budget/ Finance: Did not meet.
- b. Education & Promotion: Kraft gave an update. The application for Fresh Waves went live and is due May 25 at midnight; she also created a form to collect interested artist's emails to send out updates about the program. The committee also discussed holding Chalk it Up on June 26 and organizing a can drive in businesses the week leading up to Blues Festival.
- c. Design & Beautification: Britton gave an update on bike racks being delivered this season and possible upcoming projects related to the Social District.
- d. Economic Development: Mahler gave an update. The committee met multiple times this month to discuss the establishment of a Social District and review the presentation prepared by Gentry.
- e. Parking: Mahler gave an update on the research the committee is preparing related to elevated fines for parking tickets.
- f. Boundary Expansion: Did not meet this month.
- g. By-Law Committee: Did not meet this month.

11. Report from the City of Alpena: Smolinski gave an update:

- A revised use policy was presented to City Council last night; Council will be discussing again at its next meeting.
- Work has continued to revitalize the marina; some items have been added to next year's budget for improvements and projects. The Harbor Advisory Committee has been meeting monthly.
- Last week, City staff and City Council had its first Strategic Planning Session through Michigan State Extension.
- The first preliminary budget was presented to Council and should be approved in June.

12. Unfinished Business: None.

13. New Business:

- Beckett & Raeder Proposal: Gentry reviewed the proposal prepared by Beckett & Raeder to review our existing DDA boundaries and lead the expansion process. Smolinski will review and look into additional funding options between the DDA and City.

14. Adjournment: There being no other business, Wojda moved and Smolinski supported to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Anne Gentry.