

# GRAND HAVEN

MICHIGAN  
MAIN STREET

519 Washington Avenue  
Grand Haven, Michigan 49417  
(616) 844-1188

## Minutes

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

July 12, 2018

Council Chamber at City Hall

#### **Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call at 7:00 a.m.**

**Present:** Sharon Behm, Bob Warren, John Steinbach, Geri McCaleb, Kristin Hibbard, Cyndi Casemier, Dave Garland, Mary Janusz, Steve Loftis, Nicki Schroeder

**Absent:** Todd Anthes, Carolyn Taylor, CarrieAnne Engels

**Also Present:** Diane Sheridan, Gary Van Volkenberg, Jim Warner, Mike Ver Duin, Pat McGinnis

#### **Call to Audience/Public Comments**

Mike Ver Duin, 619 Washington, asked that the MSDDA consider encouraging the conversion of the Columbus two-way change to Beacon Blvd. or at a minimum to 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sharon replied that the MSDDA Recruitment & Retention Committee had endorsed the idea of changing Columbus to two-way for the entire length. Issue referred to Recruitment & Retention Committee for further discussion and recommendation to the Board.

#### **Approval of Minutes and Accept the Financial Report**

*Moved by Steve, second by John, to accept the minutes from the June 14 meeting and the financial reports from June. Motion carries.*

#### **Board of Light & Power Updates – Geri McCaleb**

##### Snowmelt

Sims is scheduled to be turned off during the months of November and March and we are reliant on the auxiliary boiler for energy during those outage periods. In 2018 this was not an adequate contingency plan. Three representatives from the BLP (Jack Smant, Geri Witherell, Dave Walters), MSDDA (Sharon Behm, Todd Anthes, Diane Sheridan) and the City (Geri McCaleb, Mike Fritz, Pat McGinnis) will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss issues related to the continued energy supply for snowmelt in the absence of the coal fired power plant. It is a community asset and the future viability of the system is a partnership.

##### Harbor Drive Reconstruction Project/Utility Lines

Gary Van Volkenberg and Jim Warner, 22 S Harbor, were present to ask the MSDDA to advocate for the burying of power lines during the coming Harbor Drive reconstruction project.

Pat reported that the 2008 parking lot underground project was paid 100% by the DDA TIF bond. According to BLP estimates, the underground for the coming Harbor Drive project will cost \$850,000. The City held public hearings to pay for 50% of the project through a special assessment district. At the public hearings, a majority of speakers supported the special assessment. The BLP administration has committed to placing conduit underground during the project, with the actual burying to take place in a future year.

*Motion by Bob, second by John, to support the burying of overhead power lines on Harbor Drive and direct the staff and Executive Committee to draft a formal resolution stating the Board's intentions to be presented to the City Council and BLP Board. Motion carries.*

### **Update on Parking Study Implementation**

Short term goals – new maps have been produced and are now placed in the kiosks – they identify all 19 public parking lots and downtown public restrooms. Alternative modes are also being advocated with bike racks borrowed from the schools all over the district and “BikeGH” bumper stickers.

Long term goals – The City has hired Walker Parking Consulting to begin an inquiry about which locations may be feasible for a future parking deck. Locations to be studied include the Piano Factory, Kirby, Copper Post, 5<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> and Stanco locations.

### **Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium Art – Cyndi Casemier**

Committee (Cyndi, Diane, Randy Smith, Sean Sterzer, Sue Jerovsek) continue to work with fabricators and artists to adorn the new stadium space with local, creative artwork.

### **Chairman’s Report**

#### Taste of Main Street – Sponsorships

Still at zero. Committee is meeting on Tuesday to decide if this will move forward.

#### 100 Friends of Main Street

We are up to 23. Sharon encouraged everyone to secure new “friends” before our next meeting.

#### Sound Investment

Announcement of Capital Campaign of \$150,000 (possible stretch goal of \$50,000 to bring speakers into the downtown area) to replace audio system for the fountain will be made this Saturday. Loutit, Rotary and Winterfest may also be committed to helping with the project.

#### Save this Date

September 8 – Lakeshore Visual Arts Collective Sound Off For Artwalk at Third Coast Recording

### **Director’s Report**

#### Development in the District

Stanco is still in the discussion stage.

Morning Star and Franklin Condos are underway.

Rosebud Taxi closed and moved out of the district – Just Goods will be occupying that space.

What A Gem is moving out, owner has received multiple calls on the space.

Sir Wellington’s Tea has closed and the building is for sale.

#### Refresh Transformation Goals

Diane updated the board on work at the committee level to identify measurable activities to correspond with the three goals. This work continues at the committee level and will be incorporated into Strategic Planning this fall.

### **Board Member Comment**

- Concern about condition of alley behind Kirby and 22° Below as well as behind C2C Gallery/Copper Post. More attention needs to be paid to the condition of these areas.
- The seawall being cleared at noon on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July pushes business away on a very busy day. Staff will facilitate a discussion among Coast Guard, Sheriff Marine Patrol and Public Safety about the timing of the order to clear boats and will report back to the board.
- Steve brought forward concerns about two ballot initiatives on the ballot this fall (paid sick leave and tip credit) that, if passed, would have a negative impact on the hospitality industry.
- Bikes and skateboards are riding on sidewalks in the first three blocks – we need to cause suggestive enforcement as the prohibition is being ignored. RSVPs and Cadets could help spread the message as they walk downtown.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.**

**Next meeting is August 9 at 7:00 a.m. at City Hall**