

**MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of July 7, 2020**  
**At Melrose Township Hall**

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**

Broc opened the Informational portion of the meeting, noting the meeting notice was provided to all taxing jurisdictions as well as the township's web site and bulletin board in accordance with Public Act 57 of 2018. No representatives of the various taxing jurisdictions were in attendance. Broc noted the presentation normally provided during the informational portion of this meeting will be addressed under other agenda items. This information is also available on the DDA page of the township's web site. No public comment was offered so Broc closed the informational portion of the meeting at 7:02PM.

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Chair Broc Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**Members present:** Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Jonathon Borisch, Steve Whittaker, Judy Goldsmith, Dave Rentschler, Phil Whittaker, and Katie Ross

**Members absent:** Mike Strobel

**Also present:** Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Dave Rentschler motioned, Steve Whittaker seconded, to approve the minutes of June 17, 2020 as presented. All ayes, motion carried.**

**III. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Tom reviewed the financial statements as presented in an income statement and balance sheet.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**a. Township Purchase of Circle Park:** Vern reported the township is now registered with Michigan's Recreational Grants program. An informal Public Hearing is planned for August. Our grant application should be ready around this time.

**b. Sidewalk Extension from Church to US131:** An engineered proposal has been prepared by Performance Engineers with an estimated cost of \$80,000. Discussion included if the project needs to extend to the intersection, if it should tie in with the railroad grade walking path, and which side of M-75 would work best. Lighting would be the same as our existing sidewalk.

- c. **History Walk in Circle Park:** This agenda item will be discussed under Community Art.
- d. **17 Meter Monument Sign Maintenance:** Mike is contacting a roofing business to discuss ideas for sealing the deck. Tabled until Mike is available.
- e. **Community Art:** Jonathon and Broc discussed alternatives for a Hemingway bronze with the Hemmingway Society. The younger version would be a good way to go but they would also support a more-traditional version like the one in Harbor Springs.

Broc has sought additional information on the younger version and was informed there will be 21 castings with 90% going to private collectors or landscapers. This version would therefore not be unique but the local Hemingway Society will still support it. Some of their board members suggested in may be iconic but an older version is more recognizable.

Broc proposed offering both by displaying a bronze of the older version along with a historical sign displaying a picture of the younger version along with an explanation. A bronze like the one in Harbor Springs would cost \$40,500.

**Dave Rentschler motioned, Broc Johnson seconded, to purchase and install a George Lundeen version of a Hemingway bronze at a cost not to exceed \$45,000. All ayes, motion carried.**

Broc noted a need for visibility from the road, so placement would be on the Eastern edge of Circle Park. Additionally, we will need to promote this heavily. Various ideas on timing were discussed, including a small initial dedication followed by a larger one on a date significant to Hemingway's life. Broc will contact an event planner for ideas if the Township Board approves this project.

Broc suggested we consider using etched bronze for sign frames, rather than the aluminum we expected to use.

- f. **Discovery Maps:** Jon Jenson of Discovery Maps for Little Traverse Bay has asked to be added to the agenda at a future DDA meeting. Their next printing will not take place until January. Broc will invite him to a fall meeting.
- g. **Merchants Association Update:** Katy reported the Association is still in the early stage of development and their meetings are infrequent. A web site is being created but is not yet complete. A planned Antique Show has been postponed to next year because of the Coronavirus pandemic. They are working with a promoter to guide them with this show.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Village Development Plans:** Jonathon reported efforts to develop apartment buildings east of the parking lot are still underway.

VI. **DDA COMMENTS:** None

VII. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

VIII. **NEXT MEETING:** Tentatively Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 at 5:30 PM.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

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Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

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Judy Goldsmith, Secretary