

**MELROSE TOWNSHIP DDA MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of August 27, 2020**  
**At Melrose Township Hall**

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

Chair Broc Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

**Members present:** Broc Johnson, Vern Goodwin, Steve Whittaker, Judy Goldsmith, Phil Whittaker.

**Members absent:** Mike Strobel, Jonathon Borisch, Dave Rentschler, and Katie Ross.

**Also present:** Recording Secretary Tom Mackie

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Vern Goodwin motioned, Steve Whittaker seconded, to approve the minutes of July 7, 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. Promotion Proposal by Dianna Stampfler:** Dianna provided background information on her company, Promote Michigan, and described their past projects. We reviewed and discussed contract pricing and her draft proposal to plan and promote a Hemmingway sculpture unveiling in 2021. Broc asked if any additional costs could be expected leading up to this event beyond the \$3,000 marketing and promotion budget. Dianna responded there could be additional miscellaneous costs if more events are added, but all activities involved in the current project description are already included. Broc stated he will review these ideas with other DDA members that could not attend this meeting. All members in attendance agreed to pursue this promotional event at a cost of \$3,000.

Dianna stressed the need for a local committee she can coordinate with for event planning. The Barrel Back and Hotel are expected to provide representatives and Phil offered to represent the Merchant's Association. Phil asked about any other staffing needs. Dianna responded a photographer, local officials, and herself should cover most needs.

**b. Circle Park Purchase Update:** Vern reported the Township hosted a Public Information Meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> to address public questions and concerns about a planned DNR Land Trust Grant application. A minimal number of people attended this meeting. A required Public Hearing will be scheduled in October. The Grant Application cannot be submitted until January.

- c. **17 Meter Monument Sign Maintenance:** Mike is contacting a roofing business to discuss ideas for sealing the deck. Tabled until Mike is available.
- d. **Community Art:** Broc reported we now have physical possession of the Hemmingway statue, and it is in storage until next summer.
- e. **Merchants Association Update:** No new information is available on the Merchant's Association progress.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Village Development Plans:** We discussed a proposal to construct a multi-purpose (retail and residential) structure south of the Boat launch parking lot on vacant land owned by Jonathon Perkins. A formal application to the Planning Commission is expected soon.
- b. **Model Train Christmas Proposal:** Phil noted the Traverse City Festival of Trains has been cancelled this year and asked if there may be interest in having it here. Availability and cost of using the Talcott Center, as well as current Covid-related limits on indoor gatherings, may present obstacles. Phil will discuss with Jonathon.
- c. **Park parking-lot Project:** Broc noted the parking issues in the village could be alleviated by expanding the back parking lot in the Township Park. The Township has a proposal to add Afton stone and provide improvements to drainage and the gazebo for \$22,000. The Township's Parks and Rec budget has \$6,000 available to spend and the DDA could provide the rest. **Steve Whittaker motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Broc Johnson, to authorize a DDA contribution not to exceed \$20,000 to expand the back-parking lot in the Township Park. All ayes, motion carried.**

VI. **DDA COMMENTS:** None

VII. **CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

VIII. **NEXT MEETING:** Tentatively Wednesday, **November 4th**, 2020 at **6:00 PM.**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

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Tom Mackie, Recording Secretary

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Judy Goldsmith, Secretary