

Village of Bellaire
Downtown Development Authority

Louise Wenzel, Chairperson
Don Hoyt, Vice-Chairperson
Doug Dawson, Secretary
Christy Wilson, Treasurer

Downtown Development Authority Minutes

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

1. **Call to Order:** Chairperson, Louise Wenzel called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. **Attendance:**

Members Present: Christy Wilson; Louise Wenzel; Mark Irwin; Joe Short; Rolland Fink; Don Seman
Members Absent: Doug Dawson; Don Hoyt; Dan Bennett
Guest Present: Elise Crafts

3. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** Motioned by Seman, seconded by Irwin to approve the agenda, motion carried a unanimous vote.

4. **Public Comment on Agenda:** None at this time

5. **Unfinished Business:**

- Village Update – No Village Update – Dan Bennett was not present
- Bellaire Community Action Plan Update/Resolution for Seed Grant - Elise Crafts from Statecraft discussed the Rotary Charities Seed Grant Overview. She also presented a resolution for Board approval for authorization for grant match and application for Rotary Charities See Grant program. Motioned by Irwin, seconded by Seman to approve the Resolution – motion carried a unanimous vote.
- Buy Local – Wilson provided an update indicating the downtown flowers were to be planted on May 2th. No further updates at this time.
- Water Wayfinding Signage – No update at this time as Don Hoyt was not present
- Foundation Update - The fundraising efforts for the Foundation at this time are related to providing business relief funds for businesses in Bellaire, Alden, Mancelona and Alden. The Foundation started a Go Fund Me campaign which has raised close to \$3,000 and the Foundation has also hired Elise Crafts to work on grants and grant distribution for the Foundation. Elise has submitted an application for the \$50,000 Match on Main Grant where the foundation will provide 10 businesses with \$5,000.00. The grant determination will be made on June 10th.

6. New Business:

- Discussion on Vice Chair position – board member currently holding this position has indicated they do not wish to move into the Chair position when Chair term is completed. Further discussion to follow.
- Downtown Re-Opening - The Board discussed downtown re-opening concerns/comments. It was noted several businesses have inquired about outdoor seating or road closures to accommodate social distancing during the summer. The Board realizes a closure could not occur on M88 however discussed whether there were other options available. There have been several articles regarding other communities working to help businesses by initiating road closures etc. such as Traverse City, Elk Rapids, East Jordan, Boyne City etc. The Board wanted to ensure Bellaire remains a welcoming community with also allowing social distancing.

7. Miscellaneous Business:

- Wenzel polled the members present on continuing with the Zoom format for future meetings. It was agreed the meetings would continue in the Zoom format.
- Wenzel advised members on the meeting minutes requirements under the open meetings act.

8. Public Comment on Non Agenda Items: None

9. Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Meeting minutes compiled by Louise Wenzel