Downtown Development Authority

Workshop Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Wednesday, October 3, 2012 Noon, Water Filtration Plant Conference Room



MISSION STATEMENT: The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is to be a leader in helping to fulfill the City of South Haven Municipal Plan; through planning, funding, and development of projects within the DDA District which promote, encourage and contribute to the overall economic growth and development of the community.

1. Call to Order by Chair Olson at noon.

2. Roll Call

Present: Burr, Marcoux, Marple, Maxwell, Whiteford, Zuckerman, Olson

Absent: Braun

The Board welcomed new member Scott Maxwell.

3. DDA will be asked to discuss future projects.

Steve Oosting, City Engineer, gave a presentation of proposed improvements to Phoenix Street. Davidson explained that City staff would like to work with the Board over the coming months to get a plan in place. The plan would be used to apply for a State of Michigan DIG grant. The DIG grant is the same grant that was awarded to the City for the Williams Street project. This project is 2-3 years in the future.

Many items were discussed regarding the proposed Phoenix Street project:

- At the intersection of Center and Phoenix concerns regarding the turning radius; the lanes appear to be smaller but they are the width that currently exists; if lanes are widened, then it will cut into the sidewalk; remove high curb since it interferes with snow removal; major repair needed in brick crosswalks
- Phoenix Street is in need of infrastructure replacement and storm/sewer replacement in some spots; basements of some buildings go under Phoenix St.
- Trees are a problem in front of Clementine's; Need to remove or replace; do not object to removing some trees downtown

Discussion: Is Phoenix Street the DDA priority? Why not Center Street? The intersection into town needs fixing up (Phoenix/Broadway); it is the entrance into downtown and not very welcoming; focus improvements on Phoenix and Broadway intersection; review O'Boyle Streetscape Master Plan which proposed improvements at this intersection; it is difficult to do much since the two buildings at the corners are privately owned; Oosting and Halberstadt

stated that they have been working with MDOT for quite some time to make improvements in that area since much of it is MDOT controlled;

The Board asked Oosting to return with costs to improve the Phoenix St/Broadway intersection.

The Board would like additional streetscape items placed in the downtown: benches, bike racks, signage to restrooms, etc. Davidson will bring ideas to next meeting.

4. Adjourn

Motion by Marcoux, second by Marple to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Deb Davidson DDA Director