

**Minutes**

City of Walker  
Walker/Standale Downtown Development Authority  
Tuesday, September 17, 2013  
1:00PM – DDA Board Room  
Fire Station #2 – 4101 Lake Michigan Drive

1. Call Meeting to Order and Record Attendance – The meeting was called to order by Chairman J. Cornell at 1:00PM. Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: J. Cornell, C. Vander Meulen, T. Bart, J. DeGroot, P. Goodale, D. Cramer, J. Veldheer, B. Berg, and G. Hicks

Absent: R. Smith, L. Adams, M. Neal

Also Present: Scott Conners – City Engineer, Mark Koning – DPW Director, Carley Paganelli – DDA Promotion and Events Coordinator.

2. Approval of Minutes: Following review by DDA members, a motion as made by T. Bart with support by D. Cramer to approve the August 21, 2013 Downtown Development Authority minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. Project Updates:

- Streetscape Project Open House – An open house will take place immediately following this DDA meeting to provide streetscape project information to area businesses and the general public. Representatives from Everett’s Landscaping will be present to describe details of the streetscape project and answer questions. The project is anticipated to begin on September 23 with an approximate completion date of October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Funding Feasibility of the Frederick Meijer Standale Trail Crossing at M-45 – City Engineer Conners attended a meeting with MDOT representatives regarding Standale Trail M-45 crossing possibilities. Several solutions for the M-45 crossing have been discussed such as the installation of a bridge, a “refuge” island, and a tunnel. Of the three ideas discussed, the tunnel seems most feasible. Scott advised the board that grant money may be available to help with construction costs. More details to follow.

4. Request for approval of Everett’s invoice for Streetscape Project – M. Koning presented information received from Everett’s Landscaping regarding the DDA streetscape project invoice in the amount \$50,000. Everett’s has requested a \$50,000 advance payment for products that have previously been purchased in advance of the project. A motion was made by B. Berg with support by T. Bart to approve Everett’s Landscape Management invoice in the amount of \$50,000.00. Motion carried.

5. Upcoming Promotional Activity Overview – Carley Paganelli: Information was provided by C. Paganelli regarding thank-you notes that will be sent to the bands that performed at the summer concerts in Community Park, the creation of a flyer and a logo for the DDA that will be used in future communications/promotional materials. P. Goodale inquired about the last concert in the park. C. Vander Meulen responded that the band was very good but the colder weather may have been a factor in the lower number of participants. Approximately 75-100 people attended. Discussion took place regarding concert dates for next summer's concert series, and the possibility of scheduling two concerts per month during the summer, eliminating the September date.

6. Any Other Business – Historical House Discussion (Edison House) – City Manager Vander Meulen provided an overview regarding activity that has taken place to date for the Edison House. DDA board members Hicks, Cornell and Vander Meulen met with historical house chairman Stan Stek recently to discuss possibilities of using the former fire station #2 in Standale to create a museum. The consensus of the DDA was to move forward with the original plan to develop the fire station property consistent with the Standale master plan.

Discussion then took place regarding costs for demolition of the former fire station building. An appraisal will be completed on the property. A motion was made by B. Berg, with support by T. Bart to move forward with obtaining demolitions prices. Motion carried.

7. Next Meeting Date and Time – **Tuesday, October 17, 2013 at 1:00PM.**

8. Adjournment – A motion was made by G. Hicks with support by T. Bart to adjourn the meeting at 1:25PM. Motion carried.

9. Streetscape Open House – 1:30PM until 3:00PM. – No one from the public attended the open house. Everett's gave a brief overview of the revised landscape plan to the DDA members.

**If you have any questions or are unable to attend a meeting, please contact Cathy Vander Meulen at (616) 791-6859. Thank you.**