

DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT BOARD

February 17, 2009

A regular meeting of the City of Petoskey Downtown Management Board was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 17, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., and the following were

Present: Lawrence Rochon, Chairperson
James M. Reid, Jr., Vice Chairperson
David Carlson
David Marvin
Jennifer Shorter
William Takalo
Michael Teska
H. Ted Pall, Jr., M.D., Mayor

Absent: Rodney Phillips

Also in attendance were Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce Downtown Director Becky Goodman and City Planner Amy Tweeten.

Approve Consent Agenda Items As the first item of routine business, upon motions made and seconded, draft minutes of the January 20, 2009, meeting of the Downtown Management Board were approved as submitted; acknowledgement of payment of bills since January 20, 2009, that totaled \$34,922.72; and acceptance of the February, 2009, expense and income reports, were approved as submitted.

Hear Committee Reports:
Approve Downtown Façade
Improvement Grant Procedures Next, the Downtown Director reported on behalf of the Downtown Management Board's Events Committee concerning the Winter Blues Festival and that the Committee awaited further feedback from a circulated survey concerning this new event; and reported about the Marketing Committee's scheduled "Treasure Petoskey" program.

The Downtown Director and Richard A. Neumann, Design Committee Chairperson, reported on behalf of the Downtown Management Board's Design Committee and reviewed a February 13 memorandum concerning recommended draft Downtown Petoskey Façade Improvement Grant Procedures as part of ongoing review by the Design Committee of the Scott Day Architectural-Design Guidelines Development Proposal that ultimately would be recommended to the Downtown Management Board.

Following discussion, Ms. Shorter moved that, seconded by Mr. Carlson, that the Downtown Management Board approve the draft Downtown Petoskey Façade Improvement Grant Procedures, with dates to be added in at the discretion of the Design Committee, as had been recommended by the Design Committee. Said motion was adopted unanimously.

Hear City Report

The City Planner next reported about pigeon control information that the City staff had gathered as a follow-up to prior discussions by the Downtown Management Board and that had been included in her February 5 memorandum to the Board. The City Planner then requested that the Downtown Management Board decide how it wished to proceed in this matter.

Following discussion, Downtown Management Board members concurred that this matter should be revisited in Fall, 2009; that the downtown pigeon population should continue to be reviewed; recommended that the Downtown Director include an article in the Downtown Newsletter that requested persons to refrain from feeding pigeons and that listed options available to assist in controlling pigeon population; and that property owners could seek individual treatment until further remedies for this problem could be explored.

The City Planner also reported concerning the railroad right-of-way acquisition project; that the City staff needed clarification on any restrictions the Michigan Department of Transportation would place on the acquisition that could affect the appraisal and ultimate purchase price; and that she would continue to keep the Downtown Management Board updated concerning this project.

Mayor Pall then reported concerning February 16, 2009, action by the City Council that authorized the Acting City Manager to notify Lake Street Petoskey Associates, L.L.C., Farmington Hills, and others, of its default of provisions in the Development Agreement between the City and Lake Street Petoskey Associates concerning the Petoskey Pointe redevelopment project; that the City Council was continuing to review this matter and would have a clearer understanding of the next step in this process within several weeks; that Lake Street Petoskey Associates had not requested an extension of the Development Agreement provisions at this time; and that he believed that, if Lake Street Petoskey Associates decided to end the project and offer these properties for sale, he believed that there was legitimate interest from other developers for this project area who had also expressed a concern that public parking be part of a development project in that area.

Hear Comments

Jon Bautel, owner, Beyond Borders, 309 Howard Street, reported that, in 2008, Ryan Nelson, 909 Curtis Avenue, had arranged for several "movie night" programs in Pennsylvania Park; that Mr. Nelson had reported to him that the first movie evening had been attended by approximately 150 participants; that the second movie evening had 300 participants; that he believed that this program had immense potential to bring the local community to the downtown; that this program had income potential for businesses within the downtown; and that the Downtown Management Board was being asked to fund a one-time cost of \$7,500 toward the \$15,000 screen costs for this program to continue on Wednesday and Sunday evenings in Pennsylvania Park from Memorial Day to Labor Day; that advertisers would be asked to fund the remaining \$7,500; that he requested the Downtown Management Board to consider this program cost; and that Mr. Nelson could attend a Downtown Management Board meeting, if requested, for further information. Chairperson Rochon thanked Mr. Bautel for the information.

There being no further business to come before the Downtown Management Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.