

Meeting Minutes

St. Joseph Downtown Development Authority

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 St. Joseph City Hall

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Members	Janet Dykstra Mary Goff Stephanie Grill Phil Kalamaros Deb Sailor Diane Wollenslegel	Vickie Campbell Tom Jennings

Staff: Susan Solon, Communications & Marketing Director
Derek Perry, Director of Public Works
John Hodgson, Interim City Manager

Minutes. The Minutes of the April 24th regular meeting and the May 22nd, 2013 special meeting were unanimously approved, as presented.

Financial Reports. Solon reviewed the May 2013 financial report with the Board and the report was unanimously approved, as presented.

Agenda Items

- **Cardboard Dumpsters.** Chair Goff explained that during the busy summer season the cardboard dumpsters become overflowing leaving an eyesore in the alley, particularly the one located in the 400 block; and that we received a complaint to empty those more often. Public Services Director Perry noted that we do have that dumpster emptied twice a week. He further noted that there is signage on the dumpster indicating cardboard only and another requesting to break down the cardboard in order to make space. A third sign on the dumpster directs users to not overfill the dumpster, but to use the blue garbage bins supplied behind their stores for regular garbage. Solon noted that staff has in the past talked with the owners of the restaurants, but unfortunately they do not seem to be training their employees who take care of the rubbish and recycling. Solon further noted that the City pays for the 4 cardboard-only dumpsters at a cost of approximately \$4,000 yearly. Discussion ensued about whether the merchants and/or DDA should share in those costs.
- **Banners Update.** Solon reported that the banners are delayed and when speaking to Revolution Design earlier in the week, they advised they would have them delivered within a week.
- **City of Frankenmuth DDA Work Plan.** Chair Goff handed out the City of Frankenmuth's Work Plan for board members to peruse and explained how we spoke to the DDA Director during Mayors Exchange Day. She noted that Frankenmuth has a 97% Homestead and is a lovely city.

- Street Closure Idea. Chair Goff spoke about a suggestion she received from a couple wishing that the downtown was more of a “mall-like effect”, which would entail closing State Street and only allow foot traffic. She said she was not in favor of it because it would take away valuable parking spaces and shoppers would park too far away from the stores. Discussion ensued and it was the general consensus among board members that this was not a suitable idea for St. Joseph.
- Day/Time DDA Meetings. Solon noted that she has received a request to change the meeting time and date because 1 p.m. is the busiest time of day for merchants, restaurateurs, and businesses. Discussion ensued and Chair Goff asked the board to think about it and it will be tabled until the next meeting.
- 5-Year Goals. Ongoing.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 17, 2013 in City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Solon
DDA Director