

Downtown Development Authority
November 8, 2024

A meeting of the Eaton Rapids Downtown Development Authority was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on November 8, 2024, at 7:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order:

Chair Chagnon called the meeting to order at 7:02 a.m.

Members present: Chair Chagnon, and members DeFrance, Lindsey, Booher, Sheneman, and Colestock

Members absent and excused: Johnson, McGee, and Carducci.

Administrative Staff present: Economic Specialist Barna, City Manager Ridge.

Guests: N/A

2. Approval of Agenda:

Colestock moved, Booher seconded, motion PASSED to approve the agenda.

3. Citizen Comments:

None

4. Approve of Meeting Minutes:

Booher moved, DeFrance seconded, motion PASSED to approve the October 11, 2024, minutes.

5. Treasurer Report:

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Colestock moved, Booher seconded, motion PASSED to approve the revenue and expense report for month ending October 31, 2024.

6. Committee Report:

- **Holiday Market-** Specialist Barna gave an update regarding the Holiday/Winter market; she passed out a catalog that shows the various vendors and the dates they will be at the market.
- **Wine Walk-** Specialist Barna gave an update on the Wine Walk, that will be held on Friday, December 6, 2024 starting at 6pm. The State for the licensing has approved the safety plan, just needs to confirm all locations first, but plan to have that submitted to the State (LARA) by next week (11/15) to obtain the licensing. Cost for each license/location is \$175 per license, and we would have 4 to get as the other 3 locations (Darb's, Abies, Craft Co) has their own license. Cost for tickets would be \$35. Still need to figure out the wine. Where to get, etc. Barna indicated that the cost to the location would be \$50 to participate, without providing the wine or food, \$100 if we provide the wine and food.

- **Downtown Window Decorating Contest-** Specialist Barna passed out a flyer that announced a downtown business window decorating contest for Christmas. Classic Christmas is the theme. Will need windows ready to go by Dec 6th; voting through Facebook will be Dec 7th-14th. Winners will receive a cool ribbon to hang in their window. Board Member Lindsey offered to make the ribbons but will need more information from Spec. Barna.
- **Façade Grant update:** Member Colestock gave an update on the façade grants. Out of all 9, 1 will most likely not have their project completed by the Nov.30th deadline as they ran into other funding issues for their whole project. All others are on target to complete and submit their receipts by November 30th. To date we have paid out \$8,750 with \$21,750 to still pay.

7. Director Report:

L. Barna updated the board regarding the sale of Red Ribbon Hall. Owner is asking \$394,000. She has shown it to 3 separate interested parties but price it too high for the amount of work still left to be done. New owners of the former Homeport/Riversedge will present to DDA at its February meeting to discuss their plans.

8. Old Business: City Manager Ridge mentioned she has a meeting next week with Bruce Johnston.

9. New Business: None

Board Member Comments: Member Colestock mentioned that G.A.R. Island Park will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday, November 23rd at Noon if any DDA members would like to help.

Adjournment:

Booher moved, seconded by Sheneman to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:04 a.m.

Next meeting, December 13, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,



Pam Colestock, Recording Secretary/Mayor