



**THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025 AT 10:00 AM  
86 W CENTER ST., DOUGLAS MI**

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**MINUTES**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER:** By Chair

**2. ROLL CALL/QUORUM**

PRESENT

Aleshia Balmer

Dave Laakso

Kabri Martyniek

Randy Walker

Cathy North

Lauren Vonk

Alexia Dawson

Ruth Crowe

ALSO PRESENT

City Manager Lisa Nocerini

Planning & Zoning Administrator Sean Homyen

ABSENT Maggie Bandstra

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Approval of Agenda - Changes/Additions/Deletions

Motion by Walker, Seconded by Vonk, to approve the April 23, 2025 Agenda. - *Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

A. Approval of Minutes - Changes/Additions/Deletions

Motion by Laakso, Seconded by Vonk, to approve the March 19, 2025, Minutes. - *Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

**5. OFFICER REPORTS**

A. Secretary - None

- B. Treasurer – Included in the packet
- C. Vice-Chair – Walker welcomed Ruth & Alexia to the DDA
- D. Chair – Chair Balmer welcomed the new members to the DDA

**6. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION – WRITTEN - None**

**7. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - VERBAL (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES) - None**

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Farmer's Market DDA Table Volunteers - Discussion (S. Homyen) – Planning and Zoning Administrator Sean Homyen reviewed the schedule. DDA members and staff agreed that it would be easier to print the schedule and have members sign up based on their availability after the meeting.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Wade's Bayou Mural Project Proposals - Discussion (L. Nocerini) – Each applicant went through their proposals and the DDA members asked questions and provided input.

- B. FY2025-2026 Budget Items Approval (L. Nocerini)

*Motion by Walker, seconded by Martyniek approve the following items in the FY2025-2026 DDA Budget \$29,900 for Community Promotions, \$12,893.74 for Downtown Marketing, and \$15,500 for Staffing/Training/Support for the DDA. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

- C. Art In Douglas Gateway Banner Application

*Motion by Walker, seconded by Vonk to approve the temporary gateway banner application from Art In Douglas for the dates of June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

- D. Community Events Grant Application - Art In Douglas

*Motion by North, seconded by Crowe to approve the Community Events Grant Application request for Art In Douglas in the amount of \$2,500. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

- E. Community Events Grant Application - Community Pride/Pride Week

*Motion by Walker, seconded by North to approve the community events grant application request from Community Pride/Pride Week in the amount of \$5,000. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- F. Community Events Grant Application - Community Pride/Okttoberfest

Motion by Walker, seconded by Laakso to approve the community events grant application request from Community Pride/Okttoberfest in the amount of \$3,000. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**

**11. STAFF/MANAGER REPORTS –**

City Manager Lisa Nocerini, provided an update and reminded the DDA Members Derby Day is coming up. She also provided an update on the Blue Star Highway/Main St sign, Blue Star Highway Banners, selling of City properties, strategic planning session, charging station.

*Motion by Laakso, seconded by Martyniek to extend the meeting. - Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.*

**12. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION – VERBAL (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES) - None**

**13. BOARD COMMENTS –**

Laakso announced he will be appearing on the Greg Mundsy Show this Sunday and reminded everyone about the upcoming Art in Douglas event. Walker congratulated Ashley on her recent promotion at the CVB and provided an update on a new business opening in the downtown area. Crowe inquired about the possibility of hosting a wine tasting at her gallery.

**14. CHAIR COMMENTS –** Chair Balmer wanted to thank those that submitted the proposal and Ashley on her promotion

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Walker, seconded by Vonk to adjourn the meeting.*