

MAIN STREET AREA BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ZONE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 22, 2015, 8:00 AM
DDA Office, 150 S. Fifth Ave #301

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: JIM BEUCHE; RON DANKERT; JOAN LOWENSTEIN; MICHAEL WATTS; TOM MURRAY; RENE PAPO

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: JEFF HARSHE; JIM CURTIS; JEFF HAUPTMAN; MIKE MARTIN; KATHY MACDONALD; EDWARD SHAFFRAN

OTHERS PRESENT: BETSY JACKSON; ROB SPEARS

1. **Call to Order:** Secretary Ron Dankert called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Roll was called; there was not a quorum present. The meeting proceeded with reports only.
2. **Public comments:** No public comments.
3. **Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2015:** Approval of the minutes was carried over until the next board meeting.
4. **Report of Operations:**
 - a. Financial Report – Mr. Rob Spears reported that the invoice to the DDA for their voluntary assessment had been mailed and that there was approximately \$8,200 in uncollected assessments from the summer billing. No action was taken and motion to receive the report was carried over until the next board meeting.
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. Landscape Committee Report –Ms. Betsy Jackson reported on behalf of Landscape Committee Chair Kathy Macdonald that Ms. Jackson, Ms. Macdonald, and Chairman Ed Shaffran met with Brian Swiney of Heritage Lawn Services and Professor Robert Schutzki of Michigan State University to tour the district and learn more about what could have contributed to the death of street trees. Prof. Schutzki recommended (1) removing and conducting analysis on a sampling of trees (six trees) to help pinpoint the potential causes of death, and (2) conducting on-going analysis of soils in the tree pits of a select sample of trees to determine the concentration of sodium and chloride. The sampling would be conducted fall, winter and spring. Mr. Shaffran asked Mr. Swiney to develop cost estimates for these services, and two others – (3) preparation of recommendations for sustainable landscape options within the district, and (4) fabrication of up to 20 planters, with fall/holiday plantings.

Mr. Jim Curtis joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m., at which time a quorum was established.

MOTION #1 was made by Mr. Jim Beuche to direct staff to contract with Mr. Swiney and Prof. Schutzki to (1) analyze trees; (2) take soil samples; and (3) provide landscape recommendations, based on the cost estimates provided by Mr. Swiney and not to exceed \$5,000 total. SECONDED by Ms. Joan Lowenstein. CARRIED by unanimous vote.

MOTION #2 was made by Mr. Curtis to (1) engage Heritage Lawn Services to produce no more than 20 planters and plant them with fall/holiday plant materials, at a cost not to exceed \$525 per planter; and (2) to direct the BIZ Executive Committee to determine materials and locations for the planters. SECONDED by Mr. Rene Papo. CARRIED by unanimous vote.
7. **Adjournment:** MOTION to adjourn was made by Mr. Tom Murray and SECONDED by Mr. Michael Watts. CARRIED by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald Dankert, MS BIZ Secretary