

CITY OF BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(DDRC) MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2016 4:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mayor Mark Eckert	Excused
Alderman Ken Kinsella, Chairman	Present
Jeff Renner	Excused
Geri Boyer	Present
Michael Nester	Present
Steve Hemmer	Present
John Lengerman	Excused
Chuck Blanquart	Present
John Conkright	Present

STAFF:

Annissa McCaskill, Director of Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department
Eric Schauster, Asst. Director of Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department

GUESTS:

Debbie Townsend, Barbara Ducey, Harry Norton, Julie Noeser, Cathy Stoltz, Ethan Edwards, Michael Hagberg, Jason Keck, Phil Elmore, Alderman, Ward 7

The meeting of the Downtown Development/Redevelopment Committee (DDRC) was held at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall.

Chairman Kinsella called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and explained the emergency procedures.

Chairman Kinsella asked if there were any corrections to be noted for the February 22, 2016 meeting minutes. No corrections were made hence the minutes were approved by the Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider approval of a façade improvement reimbursement for Norcom 2000, Inc. for façade improvements at 105-107 W. Washington St.

Mr. Schauster explained the façade improvement district as well as the applicant's request. The property is in the Area of Special Control but not in a TIF district. He also noted that this type of request had been granted in the past by the Commission.

Mr. Norton described the history of the building, the renovation plans and projected budget of the renovation.

There was a discussion of over spending within the budget. There were concerns with assisting the applicant with their request and how to handle future requests that aren't within the TIF district as well. Geri Boyer proposed that the Commission place an extra \$5000.00 in the budget for similar requests in the future.

John Conkright asked Mr. Schauster for clarification of which business was assisted in the past that was similar to this request; Mr. Schauster stated that he would have that information at a later date.

A motion was made by Chuck Blanquart to TABLE the request until an estimated number of businesses that are outside of the TIF district, but inside the Area of Special Control is calculated and submitted to the Commission. It was seconded by John Conkright. Voting went as follows: Chuck Blanquart-aye, John Conkright-aye, Michael Nester-aye, Geri Boyer-nay, Steve Hemmer-aye, Chairman Kinsella-nay. Motion carried. 4-2.

2. Presentation and discussion regarding the Belleville Philharmonic.

Ms. Stoltz and Mr. Edwards explained the history of the Belleville Philharmonic and their request.

There was a discussion about the quality and materials used for the banners that would be used to advertise the 150th anniversary and/or general advertisement.

The Commission asked for a schedule of downtown signage when the Street Department hangs the signs including the content.

The Commission suggested the Philharmonic group contact the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor's office to discuss further marketing options.

A motion was made by John Conkright to APPROVE a donation of \$1000.00. It was seconded by Chuck Blanquart. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried. 6-0.

Ms. Stoltz asked the Commission for \$2000.00 instead. The Commission agreed that the \$1000.00 is an appropriate donation.

An amended motion was made by Steve Hemmer to APPROVE the donation of \$1000.00 to be used solely for the recording of the music CD. It was seconded by John Conkright. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Discussion on the Gingerbread House Walk support.

The Commission discussed their past donation of \$500.00 to go to the contest winner's prize money.

A motion was made by Chuck Blanquart to APPROVE a donation of \$500.00. It was seconded by John Conkright. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried. 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion on Liability Insurance regarding downtown events.

Chairman Kinsella explained the definitions and requirements of liability insurance regarding commercial space and the City of Belleville.

Mr. Conkright requested that event holders carry their own insurance in the case of occurrences to protect the commercial spaces.

A discussion was held on the special event coverage that most event holders have.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business to discuss, Chairman Kinsella asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Geri Boyer. It was seconded by Chuck Blanquart. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried. 6-0.

Chairman Kinsella adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kari L. Tutza

Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department

APPROVED