DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
January 26, 2009

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jennifer Shoub, Chris Shook, Lisa Prasher, Derek Wissner, Erma Gordon, Bobby Hopewell

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kenneth Miller, Jim Escamilla, John Schmitt, Ann Rohrbaugh

STAFF PRESENT: Ken Nacci, Steve Deisler, Deb Houseman, Nicole Wilson, Vicky Kettner, Rob Peterson, Jillian Green

OTHER: Val Lazdins, Gail Towne, Deb Killarney, Linda Kecik, Alex Nixon, Curt Aardema

Director Shoub called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THE AGENDA WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS AS PRESENTED.

III. MINUTES—December 15, 2008

DIRECTOR SHOOK MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 12/15/08 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR PRASHER. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. FINANCE REPORT—November 30, 2008

DIRECTOR HOPEWELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCE REPORT OF 11/30/08 AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR SHOOK. MOTION CARRIED.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing on 2009 Draft Comprehensive Plan for Downtown Kalamazoo

K. Nacci welcomed attendees and provided an overview on the Comprehensive Plan update process, sharing handouts. He then turned to Val Lazdins of LSL Planning, Inc. for a slideshow presentation of the draft plan based on feedback from multiple community forums and focus groups. S. Deisler also reviewed the Transformative Projects component of the proposed plan. He noted that the next step would be developing a work plan and determining who would be the lead organizations on the proposed projects. K. Nacci clarified that the document was not yet finalized, noting hard copies would be available in the City Clerk's Office and the DKI office, with a small fee for running Additionally, an electronic version will DKI website (www.central-city.net). He referenced a timeline with the dates for the Planning and City Commission presentations amongst other community forums. Early May is being targeted for adoption of the plan, once it has gone through public input and approval process with the public bodies.

1. Public Comments

Deb Killarney, downtown resident, shared her appreciation for the public input opportunities throughout the process. She noted it was evident that the feedback was factored based on the information presented.

2. Close Public Hearing

Director Shoub closed the Public Hearing.

3. Board Comments

Director Gordon asked about transportation opportunities for students, specifically for late-evening hours. K. Nacci explained that staff has been working on a student connector trolley for awhile, even prior to the Comp. Plan feedback. He noted a route was designed and a cost estimate had been done, staff is working through a logistical issue related to federal legislation.

Director Prasher asked about an opportunity for stimulus funding from the federal government related to the two-way streets initiative. Director Hopewell explained that the funding would be available for 'shovel-ready' projects and the two-way streets project would not likely qualify.

Director Wissner shared his appreciation for the staff's diligence during the process. He observed the plan was well developed and progressive.

DIRECTOR SHOOK MOVED TO ENDORSE THE 2009 DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR DOWNTOWN KALAMAZOO, AUTHORIZING STAFF TO FORWARD IT TO THE PLANNING AND CITY COMMISSIONS AS PRESENTED. SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR GORDON. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Accept Resignation of Director VanSweden

Director Shoub explained that Director Van Sweden was unable to continue his participation on the Board, asking for acceptance of his resignation and thanking him for his service.

DIRECTOR HOPEWELL MOVED TO ACCEPT DIRECTOR VAN SWEDEN'S RESIGNATION WITH REGRETS AS DISCUSSED. SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR WISSNER. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Appoint Nominating Committee

Director Shoub stated that historically, the Executive Committee acts as the Nominating Committee, asking for any comments and a motion from the Board.

DIRECTOR PRASHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO SERVE AS THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE AS DISCUSSED. SUPPORTED BY DIRECTOR WISSNER. MOTION CARRIED.

A. Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

K. Nacci explained that the minutes included in the packet were merely informational.

VII. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Hopewell thanked the staff, volunteers and consultants for their efforts on the updated Comprehensive Plan. Director Shoub echoed the comments.

K. Nacci reported that the 2009 DDA budget received preliminary approval by the City Commission the prior week.

K. Nacci reminded attendees of the State of the Downtown Address scheduled for February 16 at 3 p.m. at the Cityscape Event Center with the theme being the Comprehensive Plan. As a result, the DDA Board meeting will take place on February 26 at 3 p.m. in the City Hall Community Room when action will be taken on the 2009 budget. Director Hopewell added that the State of the City event was slated for the evening of March 30, asking attendees to save the date.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

Jillian Green
Recording Secretary