

Village of Fife Lake
Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:36pm

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll call: Present: Tornow, Forwerck, Blazak, Hempsted, Benke, and Aldridge

Absent: Patrick(excused) and Roesemier(excuse)

Others: Eby- Recording Secretary

Approval of Agenda: Changes to the agenda were to move the donations to the Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, and bills from Bit com Social, Explorer North 131 group, Recording Secretary and the Treasurer to be done under the Treasurers Report. Motion made by Benke to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Blazak. **Motion carried** with all yeas

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Blazak to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Hempsted. **Motion carried** with all yeas

Treasurers Report: Benke passed out the information and a handout of the bills received and paid. Receipts are Fife Lake Twp. for \$617.90. and \$2200.00 for 6 streetlamps (\$300.00) and one bench for \$400.00. Expenses to Fife Lake Township \$20,361.82 and a bill for the MDA for \$750.00 and Barker Creek Nursery \$408.24 for trees for the downtown. Current bills that need to be paid are a donation request for the Historical Society for \$500.00, and the Chamber of Commerce for \$2,300.00 for fireworks and \$500.00 for the Farmers Market for a total of \$2,800.00. Bills that are due are Fife Lake Village of \$500.00 for Explorer 131, Bit Social which was increased to \$1686.40 for the addition of a e -mail address to the website, and \$750.00 for 6 months wage for the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer. Motion made by Benke to pay the presented bills, seconded by Hempsted. **Roll Call:** Blazak-Y, Hempsted-Y Forwerck-Y Benke-Y. Aldridge-Y and Tornow-Y. **Motion carried.** Motion made by Forwerck to approve the Treasurers Report as presented, seconded by Blazak. **Motion carried** with all yeas. There are two CD's coming due, one in July and one in August.

Communication: Will from Bit Social said that the new website will have a link this weekend so all can see. He also asked about getting together with Hempsted and Aldridge to work on a logo.

Public Comment: Debbie McCool from the Chamber of Commerce, passed out the second edition of the newsletter and the current flyer for the 4th of July.

New Business

Contributions: discussed was addressed under the treasurers

Board Member resignation: Stephnie Smith resigned from the DDA. Motion made by Blazak to accept Smith's resignation, seconded by Benke. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Old Business

Bulletin Board: Forwerck said that the bulletin board is almost done. Forwerck said that \$2000.00 has been spent so far. She said that pavers will cost around \$1000.00. Magee will cover the cement pad for the bulletin board. A roof still needs to be put on. Forwerck said that she will work on the veteran's plaque after it is in place. She said that there were 1000 names of veterans for the plaque. and it may need to go on two sides as this is a triangular bulletin board,

Website Update: covered under communications

Explorer 131 North Bill: Covered under Treasurers Report

Facades: Forwerck appointed a committee to review the facades consisting of Hempsted, Benke, and Aldridge. Blazak made a motion to appoint Hempsted, Aldridge, and Benke to the façade review committee. Motion seconded by Benke. **Roll call:** Balzak-Y, Hempsted-Y, Forwerck-Y Benke-Y, Aldridge-Y, Tornow-Y. **Motion carried.** All the information was turned over to the committee.

Forwerck handed out the project list at the meeting. She mentioned that the dog park was staked out at Pierce Street Park, and someone took the stakes. Forwerck asked about trail cam be placed in the park. Benke Hempsted and Blazak will investigate web cam options. Benke made a motion to not spend not more than \$500.00 for web cams to be placed in all DDA parks. Motion seconded by Aldridge. **Roll Call:** Tornow-Y, Forwerck-Y, Blazak-y, Hempsted-Y, Benke-Y, and Aldridge-Y. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment: Kevin Manor -516 Howard Street said he thought the facades are a good thing for the business owners. He was against the dog park and felt it was a waste of time., He discussed the gazabo in Lakeside Park saying that the bushes and trees are overgrown and the gazabo cannot be seen from the street. He suggested hiring an architect to look at the downtown and lake as he felt that Lakeview Park went along with the downtown. He commented on the parking problem and suggested angle parking.

Board Comments: Blazak discussed the sign at the entrance. He said that it would be made of Cedar. He said it would be 6X8 in size. He said that a letter came in from John Kelley as a proposal. The wayfinding signs will be \$125.00 each. Those businesses in the DDA district will be covered and the ones outside the DDA district will have to pay the cost. Forwerck recused herself from the meeting and let Benke conduct the meeting. Since John Kelly is Forwerck's brother Forwerck discussed this with the members and asked if it was a conflict. This was reflected in the February 20th, 2024, minutes in which that section was read aloud to all present.

Blazak made a motion to approve the \$125.00 per sign and \$1000.00 to take them down and put them back up again for 17 signs at roughly the cost of \$3000.00. Motion seconded by Hempsted. **Roll Call:** Forwerck- abstain, Benke-Y, Tornow-Y, Aldridge-Y, Hempsted-Y, and Blazak-Y. **Motion carried.**

Forwerck asked Deb McCool about the sign south on 131 thinking it may be the Chambers sign. This happened at least 10 years ago. The sign has overgrowth of shrubbery. Debbie said she would investigate it. Benke and Aldridge said they would pull the dead shrubs and weed it.

Motion made by Tornow to adjourn and seconded Hempsted at 7:37pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Marcia Eby