

Business Development Committee Meeting
MINUTES –June 19, 2008

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: City Council Chambers City Hall



Present: Stephanie Schlittler -Chair, Al Patterson, Jane Cartwright, Pat Convery, Nathan Voght (DDA Director), Mindy Arnold (Main Street Manager)

Absent: Kevin Brady, Mary Heikkinen, Vicki Hartman, and Norb Boes.

1. Call to Order: S. Schlittler called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion by P. Convery to approve Business Development Committee Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2008; Motion seconded by S. Schlittler; Carried.

3. Howell Happenings Live. May 21, 2008 was the Spring HHL and there were 23 people in attendance. There were a couple issues with getting into the theater but the rest went smoothly. Representatives from all the organizations invited were present and a preview of the recruitment DVD was presented. There will be no Summer HHL and a date for the fall HHL will be set at the August 21st meeting.

4. Retail Development Strategy Business – Recruitment. The DVD script is due to be delivered in the next week. Lindsay is now shooting footage in HD and will have all the footage needed by the middle of July. We are setting a goal for DVD release to be in mid-august. There are no updates yet for the brochure and the Realtor Round table will be in early fall. There was discussion about the Recruitment team. The team will consist of S. Schlittler, P. Convery, K. Brady, C. Swann, N. Voght, and M. Arnold. A date for the first meeting will be set in the next week. Nathan and Mindy attended a training session called “Gone Fishin” and they brought back some great ideas for the group to get started and get focused. It was nice to see that some of the things that they brought back are already in use by the committee. A copy of the session notes was included.

5. Available Building Signs. We have signs coming down!!101 W. Clinton is now leased by a church office and the former popcorn shop is also being leased by a photographer. Budget Tire is now out of business and will be reached to get a sign in the building.

6. Property Profile and Business Update. The committee reviewed the property profile list and downtown business update.

7. Other Business.

Wally. P. Convery informed the committee that the 1st report was in and will be released in the coming week. They noted that they found no surprises.

Michigan Main Street Forum. M. Arnold and N. Voght brought back great information and action plan guidelines for a recruitment team. This was in further detail under Business Recruitment strategy.

FYI. Fox News Zip Trip will be in town next week for Balloonfest and will broadcasting live for two hours from downtown.

July Meeting. Due to Stephanie and Mindy being unable to attend a meeting on the early set July 17, the committee discussed moving the meeting to the 10th. An email will be sent to confirm a change.

Volunteer Hours. -- hours, plus meetings. S. Schlittler 15, P. Convery 4

8. Motion by P.Convery to adjourn at 1:15 PM, 2nd by J. Cartwright, Motion Carried.

Next Business Development Committee Meeting: TBA.