

**CALUMET VILLAGE DDA MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024 – 9:00 AM**  
**CALUMET VILLAGE TOWNHALL, 340 SIXTH STREET**

**Present:** Chair Nikki L’Esperance; Members Rick Campioni, Pete Hahn, JW Miller *\*arrived*

*9:04am*, Nathan McParlan, Andrew Ranville, Rob Tarvis

**Absent:** Members Tom Dumble (*resigned*), Lorri Oikarinen

**Also Present from the Village:** Manager Haselden, President Pro Tem Que

**Present from the Public:** MSC Advisor Leah Polzien, Walter Holcomb, Courtney Tucker,  
Jason Wickstrom

I. Call to Order / Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

L’Esperance called the meeting to order at 9:00am with Roll Call and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Petitions from the Public (*members of the public have 5 minutes to speak*)

None.

III. Approval of Agenda

Tarvis moved, seconded by Campioni to approve the agenda as presented.

**Motion Carried 7/0**

IV. Review and approve meeting minutes of December 11, 2023

Tarvis moved, seconded by Campioni to approve the minutes as presented.

**Motion Carried 7/0**

V. Ratify all actions taken at December 11, 2023 Meeting

Tarvis moved, seconded by Hahn to ratify all actions taken at the December 11, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Campioni, Hahn, L’Esperance, McParlan, Miller, Ranville, Tarvis

Nays: None

Absent: Oikarinen and Dumble

**Motion Carried 7/0**

VI. Unfinished / Revolving Business

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1. Updates from Village Council, Historic District Commission, Planning Commission, etc.

Que updated the board re: Council, HDC and Planning Commission activities.

2. Main Street Calumet Contract Report

Polzien presented the first of two annual reports to the DDA board per the Main Street Calumet contract. Network Calumet, a business networking informal will be held at Ramona’s Bakery in February, date TBD.

3. Fire Site Update

Survey for the fire site concept plan is still open. Polzien has approval from the Houghton County Land Bank Authority (HCLBA) to plan on having seating, etc. in the space over the Spring/Summer.

4. Greenspace Update

No updates at this time.

5. District Property Updates

Polzien updated the board that the HCLBA may be receiving another round of funding in 2024, potential for demolition/clean-up on other properties in the district.

6. Information Session Reschedule – February 12, 2024

The Annual Information Session has been rescheduled to 2/12/24 following the DDA Meeting, at 10:30am. Haselden to post to and send to tax agencies as required.

7. Highway 41 Signage

L’Esperance updated the board on the progress of the billboard on Hwy. 41. DDA will be designing the billboard and will send out a Request for Proposal for printing and installation. Tarvis moved, seconded by Ranville to approve the RFP with the change to add “or other applicable materials” to the Submission Requirements. See attached RFP with change.

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**Motion Carried 7/0**

The Contract with Visit Keweenaw for the signage will be pushed to the March DDA Agenda. Polzien plans to request up to \$2,500 from the Keweenaw National Historic Park Advisory Commission (KNHPAC) to help cover costs at their January meeting.

8. DDA Grant Guidelines

L’Esperance and Polzien updated the board on work done towards the DDA Grant Program Guidelines, Applications, and other materials. Topic to be added to the February agenda.

VII. New Business

1. Potential board member interest

Tom Dumble has officially resigned from the DDA Board, leaving 1 seat vacant. Letters of interest were received from Walter (Wally) Holcomb, Shelly Larson and Jason Wickstrom. Holcomb and Wickstrom spoke to the board about their interest in serving. Board to review and determine at the February meeting.

2. Realtor Meeting

L’Esperance and Polzien shared that they are organizing a meeting with local realtors to present information on downtown Calumet. They will be working with Que and realtor Adam Taivalkoski on the presentation, date TBD.

3. Approval of DDA Bills/Transaction Report

Ranville moved, seconded by Campioni to approve the transaction report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Campioni, Hahn, L’Esperance, McParlan, Miller, Ranville, Tarvis

Nays: None

Absent: Oikarinen and Dumble

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**Motion Carried 7/0**

VIII. Summarize Action Items

1. Haselden to post and sent the scheduled DDA Annual Information Session to the tax agencies by January 24, 2024.
2. Polzien to present proposal to KNHPAC for billboard funding.
3. L’Esperance and Polzien to continue work on billboard RFP and contract with Visit Keweenaw.
4. L’Esperance and Polzien to continue work on presentation to realtors.

IX. Comments from the Public (*members of the public have 5 minutes to speak*)

None.

X. Adjourn

Tarvis moved, seconded by Hahn to adjourn the meeting at 10:20am.

**Motion Carried 7/0**

XI. Comments from the Public (*members of the public have 5 minutes to speak*)

None.

XII. Adjourn

Tarvis moved, seconded by Hahn to adjourn the meeting at 10:20am.

**Motion Carried 7/0**

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Haselden, Village Manager

Rick Campioni, DDA Secretary