

CALUMET VILLAGE DDA MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 9:00 AM
CALUMET VILLAGE TOWNHALL, 340 SIXTH STREET

Present: Chair Nikki L'Esperance; Members Rick Campioni, Nathan McParlan, Lorri Oikarinen, Andrew Ranville, Rob Tarvis, Jason Wickstrom

Absent: 1 Vacant Seat

Also Present from the village: DDA Administrator Megan Haselden; CEDAM Fellow Joey Foster

Present from the public: MSC Director Jared Howard; KEDA Director Jeff Ratcliffe

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*)

III. Approval of Agenda

McParlan moved, supported by Tarvis, to approve the agenda with the addition of Proposal for Part-Time DDA Director Position under Item IV. #2.

Motion Carried 8/0

IV. Review and approve meeting minutes of March 9, 2026

Tarvis moved, supported by Campioni, to approve the minutes with the correction of Item V. 1. i. change "to appoint" to "recommend to Council appointment of".

Motion Carried 8/0

V. Unfinished / Revolving Business

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

Tarvis & Haselden provided updates.

2. Main Street Calumet Update

Howard provided updates, including that the MSC board is meeting monthly, and is looking for a new Chairperson; they are continuing looking into Main Street affiliation; Network Calumet will be in June, location TBD; proposal for ice rink on Fire Site for next winter is still in the works.

Ranville moved, supported by McParlan, to have the DDA provide a Letter of Support for the ice rink project for MSC proposal to the Houghton County Land Bank Authority.

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Motion Carried 8/0

3. District Updates

i. DDA Properties

No updates

ii. District property sales / transitions

No updates – Welcome Packets are available for new property owners in the district.

4. Project Updates

i. Ruppe

Ratcliffe provided an update; attached. Discussion on leaving raised funds with Keweenaw Community Foundation to be used for grant match. Haselden to draft a proposal to the Houghton County Land Bank Authority to see if they will consider taking title to the property.

ii. FIT Assessment

Possible May 18th date scheduled; Haselden to follow up.

iii. Spring Mailer

L’Esperance reviewed the mailer; provided that it will be sent to full township residents with financial contribution from the township.

iv. DDA Grant Program

The grant applications should be online and ready by 4/15 – grant application deadline scheduled for May 15th.

v. Downtown Mural Proposal

L’Esperance reviewed information for a potential mural of wildflowers on the building abutting Calumet Commons – Main Street Calumet submitted a grant for the mural.

5. MDA Training / DDA Plan Update

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Planning Training scheduled for April 13, 10:30 – 11:30.

VI. New Business

1. Calumet Commons: Big Annie Statue / Events

Haselden reviewed updated drawings and information regarding the Big Annie statue. Discussion of events in Calumet Commons, no rental charge, space is provided on a first come – first serve basis and is open for community type events. Haselden to draft a basic agreement for use of the site.

2. Proposal for part-time DDA Director

Haselden reviewed a proposal for adding L’Esperance as a paid part-time DDA Director, 10-15 hours/month at \$20/hour; an estimated cost to the DDA of \$3,500/year. This position will handle business outreach, marketing, social media, DDA events and projects. Village staff will still act as DDA Administrator, in charge of agendas, minutes, accounting and reporting.

McParlan moved, supported by Tucker, to approve the position and asks that a contract and Conflict of Interest statement be on the May DDA agenda for approval.

Motion Carried 8/0

3. Approval of DDA Bills/Transaction Report

No bills this month.

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

VIII. Adjourn

Tarvis moved, supported by Ranville, to adjourn the meeting at 10:42am.

Motion Carried 8/0

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Haselden, DDA Administrator

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