

CALUMET VILLAGE DDA MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, 9:00 AM
CALUMET VILLAGE TOWNHALL, 340 SIXTH STREET

Present: Chair Nikki L'Esperance; Members Pete Hahn, Nathan McParlan, JW Miller **arrived 9:18am,*
Lorri Oikarinen, Andrew Ranville, Jason Wickstrom **arrived 9:08am*

Absent: Members Rick Campioni & Rob Tarvis

Also present from the village: Manager Megan Haselden; CEDAM Fellow Joey Foster

Present from the public: Courtney Tucker

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

L'Esperance called the meeting to order at 9:05am 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

McParlan moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve the agenda.

Motion Carried 5/0

IV. Review and approve meeting minutes of June 16, 2025 Meeting

McParlan moved, seconded by Oikarinen, to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion Carried 5/0

V. Unfinished / Revolving Business

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

Haselden provided updates from the Village Council and boards.

**Wickstrom arrived at 9:08am*

2. Main Street Calumet Update

i. Update on joint meeting with Council/MS/DA

Haselden provided updates on the joint meeting, including the potential for a partial merger with the MSC board to start work to become affiliated with the MI Main Street program.

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DDA to consider board needs and develop an opinion on how the board would like to move forward.

3. District Updates

i. DDA Properties

512 Portland structural issue was looked at and taken care of by KEDA, who is currently working on proposals for the property.

ii. District property sales / transitions

No updates.

4. Furniture for Greenspace

Should be on track for the end of July.

5. Bike Racks for Downtown

Miller and Oikarinen provided information for adding bike racks to the district. Discussion on a potential grant, due immediately from Copper Shores to cover half of the cost. Because we would not hear back on that grant application or necessarily be awarded, Ranville moved, seconded by Wickstrom, to approve spending up to \$2,700 on bike racks for the district.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Hahn, L'Esperance, McParlan, Miller, Oikarinen, Ranville, Wickstrom

Nays: None

Absent: Campioni, Tarvis

Motion Carried 7/0

**McParlan left the meeting at 9:51am*

6. DDA Bylaws

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Discussion on DDA bylaws, needed for the RRC Certification process. Ranville moved, seconded by Wickstrom, to accept the bylaws with the amendment of items: 5. add “The DDA Administrator performs the duties of the Secretary and Treasurer”. 6.b. change “shall meet the second Monday of each month at 9am” to “shall meet monthly at a regular posted meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act”; also remove the agenda layout from item 6. C.

Motion Carried 8/0

7. Wayfinding

Review of the wayfinding project, a possible collaboration project with the Village of Laurium and Calumet Township to develop a wayfinding plan. Keweenaw National Historical Park has set aside \$15,000 for the project. The total estimated cost is \$45,000. Wickstrom moved, seconded by Ranville, to approve spending up to \$10,000 for the wayfinding project and to have the DDA Administrator reach out to the Township and Laurium to see if they will do the same.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Hahn, L’Esperance, Miller, Oikarinen, Ranville, Wickstrom

Nays: None

Absent: Campioni, McParlan, Tarvis

Motion Carried 6/0

VI. New Business

1. Ruppe Building Development Agreement / Acquisition

Haselden updated that no significant funding has been secured for the Ruppe Building and asks the board to consider taking title of the property, as provided in the development agreement.

2. Acquisition of Parcel 041-109-009-10 and Parcel 041-109-008-00 (100 block of 6th Street vacant lots) for a total of \$8,500.

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Haselden updated that the property owner accepted the offer of \$8,500, which he later rescinded.

Tarvis to meet with the property owner to discuss. Hahn moved, approved by Ranville, to approve spending up to \$8,500 to acquire the property, should the property owner choose to sell.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Hahn, L'Esperance, Miller, Oikarinen, Ranville, Wickstrom

Nays: None

Absent: Campioni, McParlan, Tarvis

Motion Carried 6/0

3. Farmers Market Representative

Leah Polzien has stepped down as the Farmers Market Representative and From the Ground Farmers Market Collective has requested that we appoint a new member. Hahn moved, seconded by Oikarinen, to appoint Ranville as the new representative.

Motion Carried 6/0

4. Right of Way Permit / Policy

Discussion of issues on 5th Street sidewalk/right of way and the need to adopt a policy.

5. Sponsorship to Pasty Fest

Discussion on potential sponsorship to Pasty Fest, with no motion offered.

6. Approval of DDA Bills/Transaction Report

Hahn moved, seconded by Ranville, to approve the bills/transaction report.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Hahn, L'Esperance, Miller, Oikarinen, Ranville, Wickstrom

Nays: None

Absent: Campioni, McParlan, Tarvis

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Motion Carried 6/0

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

None.

VIII. Adjourn

Hahn moved, seconded by Ranville, to adjourn the meeting at 10:56am.

Motion Carried 6/0

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Haselden, DDA Administrator