





The Social District is on the Agenda for City Council for tonight, August 10, 2021. Chair Willett indicated she is planning on attending and if there were any other members of the DDA that could attend to show support, this would be great.

Executive Director Cloutier commented the Social District is going before Council to approve the management and maintenance plan, and also the map. Executive Director Cloutier and Assistant City Manager Benson have been working with the State regarding the map and management plan on suggestions. The map is not officially approved. There are eligible license holders. Not too much has changed since the last time the DDA met in June with the management plan. The social district will be open from noon to 10 p.m., which would be a better fit for the community.

Assistant City Manager Benson indicated there are a lot of things about the social district processing and the main things that City Council would need to consider. They are optimistic to get good feedback and be able to make some adjustments, if City Council doesn't like the way it is laid out.

City Manager Brown commented he thought there would be some questions tonight by City Council which is a good indication that people are interested. Assistant City Manager Benson is looking at other possibilities of properties that the City owns to look at whether that is something that could become up for development as well as part of the social district.

Executive Director Cloutier stated she worked with Josh Donnelly on a logo. She felt it was important to pay homage to Wixom's past. They came up with the brand name for the Wixom Social District of "The Junction". Samples and stickers were shown in the packet to the board members. Establishments would need to have their own logo, as well.

Executive Director Cloutier indicated she spoke with Signarama regarding signage costs. Executive Director Cloutier stated she would like to get approval for signage and furnishings. The money allocated in the amount of \$13,000 for flowers is still in the budget and she would like to use this for signage and furnishings. Chair Willett indicated they would need to have at least two quotes, which City Council would appreciate, as well.

Vice Chair Rzeznik indicated she liked the idea of utilizing the leftover money on the flowers for the Social District, if approved by Council. Vice Chair Rzeznik inquired what happens to the picnic tables that are at the park used for concerts after the concert series is done. Mayor Beagle indicated the tables get stored. City Manager Brown indicated he would talk to DPW to reutilize the picnic tables in other areas for this year, if the social district gets approved; then, look at purchasing tables next year.

There was discussion about getting additional quotes for signage to find a lower bid, if possible. Vinyl decals and installation were included in the price of the quote. Assistant City Manager





booths. The Business Summit would be free to people to attend. The goal is to have 250 total participation.

F. Committee: Organization

Executive Director Cloutier indicated Board Member Serylo has been in contact with new volunteers to help with the DDA events. No one has committed to be on a committee but they are working on this. The volunteer list is growing.

For the Block Party, there has been discussion to manage some areas with, possibly, having the Walled Lake Western Cheerleaders and teens to help out and receive some volunteer hours.

This year, the same as last year, the DDA will have a booth to pass out information regarding the DDA to get more volunteers for involvement and help on the committees.

**New Business:**

A. 2021-2022 DDA Calendar of Events

Executive Director Cloutier commented that she thought it would be a good idea to approve the Calendar of Events each August to put on the DDA website. The core events are listed. She checked the City's website and the dates do not conflict with Parks and Recreation or any of the Commissions and/or Boards of the City. The events can be amended at a later time.

**MOTION** by Board Member Cheney and seconded by Board Member Fine to approve the DDA 2021-2022 Calendar of Events.

**VOTE: MOTION CARRIED**

B. Outdoor Dining - COVID 19

Board Member Meredith indicated when the City Council came up with the rules authorizing restaurants to serve outside for the pandemic, the rules seemed reasonable. At this point with the different variants, Board Member Meredith recommended to remove the current date and implement a time to be effective until the authorities indicate that the pandemic is over or under control.

City Manager Brown indicated City Council would probably prefer to set a date in the future and to revisit that date. City Manager Brown commented they are looking for an extension from the October, 2021 date and will be addressed soon.

**Information:**

A. Downtown Business News/Events

- 2021: Green Goat Gifts Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting - August 12, 2021: 11:00 am -- If anyone can attend the ribbon cutting ceremony, please attend to support the businesses.
- 2021: Wixom Block Party - September 18, 2021

**Public Comments:**

None

**Executive Director's Comments:**

Executive Director Cloutier thanked everyone for their time, dedication and hard work. The Social District is on a good path and, hopefully, will be approved tonight.

**Board Members' Comments:**

Vice Chair Rzeznik commented the flowers in the downtown area look beautiful. She thanked everyone who was involved including Executive Director Cloutier, Parks and Recreation and DPW.

Chair Willett commented many people have made compliments on the flowers. She suggested doing something for the winter with wreaths or something similar.

Chair Willett indicated she spoke with City Manager Brown in reference to the clarification on the combination of zoom and in person meetings. A definition from leadership will need to be done moving forward.

Assistant City Manager Benson gave a quick update on the DDA plan. He indicated the plan is moving forward but it is a big process. They are building support outside of the city, the County Commissioner, etc. He has become less optimistic that this process will be completed by the end of August, but before the end of 2021, there should be an updated plan. Assistant City Manager Benson indicated he would continue to share updates.

Assistant City Manager Benson stated the HAP grant was approved for the Air Line Trail. The Trail required easements and moving in a positive direction. Best case scenario, the construction will be constructed in 2022 to 2023.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION by** Board Member Meredith, second by Mayor Beagle to adjourn the meeting. This meeting of the Wixom Downtown Development Authority was motioned and adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Mona Freiburger  
Recording Secretary

Approved 9/28/2021