



City of Southgate
Downtown Development Authority Informational Meeting
January 20, 2022

A Meeting of the Downtown Development Authority was held on January 20, 2022 at City Hall, 14400 Dix-Toledo Highway, Southgate, Michigan in the Council Chambers.

Present-	Brian Batko, Alex Leonard, Ron Moran, Bruce Genthe, Joseph Kuspa, Lauren Moser, Greg Kowalsky
Absent-	Mohammed Aborabboh, Wally Kleit
Also Present-	DDA Director Cassidy Tear, DDA Liaison Zoey Kuspa, City Administrator Dustin Lent

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kuspa at 5:02 p.m.

Reports:

- 1. Minutes – May 20th, 2021 Informational Meeting Minutes**
It was moved by Moran, supported by Moser, to approve the special meeting minutes of May 20th, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously
- 2. DDA Board Member Introduction: Greg Kowalsky**
Greg Kowalsky is the newest member of the DDA Board replacing Lauren Moser who has resigned. His first DDA Meeting is January 20th, 2022.
- 3. 2022 DDA Meeting Schedule**
Each DDA Board Meeting will be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5pm. All meetings will remain in-person.

New Business:

- 1. Easter Eggstravaganza**
Tear informed the board on the FREE Easter Eggstravaganza Event that is taking place on March 27th at Market Center Park. As of now, we have almost 150 children signed up.
- 2. 2021 Business Awards/State of the City Address**
Tear updated the Board on the 2021 Business Awards and informed them that the awards will be presented to the public at the State of the City address. Chairman Kuspa updated the board that the State of the City Address will take place at the end of April/Beginning of May.
- 3. Update on New Banners for Spring**
Tear updated the board on the Banner Sponsorship Program. We are waiting to hear from the Southgate Anderson Art Department if they have enough Artwork for us to use.
- 4. Update on BIG Grants for Businesses**

Tear updated the board on the BIG Grant Program. We should have more information within the next couple months.

Old Business:

1. Winter Wonderland

Tear updated the board on the DDA's Christmas events. The tree lighting was shown LIVE on the city's Social Media pages for viewers and residents to watch from home. The Train Rides were able to resume and we had a great turnout both nights.

2. Holiday Market

Tear updated the board on the DDA's 1st Annual Holiday Market.

3. Light Up the Park Event

Tear updated the board on the Light Up the Park event that was held at Market Center Park from December 11th-December 31st. The event was fully funded by sponsorship from the business community, providing a free, family-friendly Christmas experience for families.

4. Noon Year's Eve Event

Tear updated the board on the DDA's most recent event, Noon Year's Eve.

Adjournment:

Moved by Moran, support by Kowalsky, that this meeting of the Downtown Development Authority be adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mission Statement

The Southgate Downtown Development Authority's mission is to strengthen the economic vitality of the District by creating an environment that promotes commerce, enhances aesthetics, explores mixed-use development and encourages stakeholder participation.

CT.

Cassidy Tear
Recording Secretary

CT
1/20/2022