I. Call to Order

Chairman Heins called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

II. Roll Call:

Present: Chairman Heins, Brown, Dixon, Dull, Callen, G. Hanks, Moore, Van Leeuwen-Vega, and M. Hanks (Council Liaison)

Absent: Willison

Staff Present: Chris Burns (Village Manager), Angela Stanford-Butler (DDA Director), Marv Hinga (Finance Director) and Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk).

III. Approval of Minutes: 4/14/2020 Regular meeting.

Motion by Callen, second from Dixon, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2020 Regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 9  No: 0

IV. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Van Leeuwen-Vega, second from Dixon, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 9  No: 0

V. Financial Reports – Hinga reviewed the Financial reports with the Board.

Motion by Van Leeuwen-Vega, second from Callen, to approve the Finance Report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 9  No: 0

VI. Business

A. Joy Gaasch – EDC Loan Find – Small Business Relief Assistance. Burns shared that the City of Grand Haven had a revolving loan fund for their small businesses and Joy Gaasch was working with the five NW Ottawa Communities to do something similar for their businesses that were struggling and might not be able to get State or Federal funding because they don’t fit the criteria. Joy Gaasch explained that they took the idea from the State to develop a process that they could implement in NW Ottawa County for revolving $5,000 loans with 0% interest. Gaasch went over the criteria for applying for this type of loan and said that if the DDA was interested in
participating, the Chamber would manage the loans on the DDA’s behalf. Burns said she was waiting on a legal opinion to make sure this was allowable. The Board discussed this item and agreed that they were interested in participating.

Motion by Van Leeuwen-Vega, second from Callen, to establish the EDC Loan Program for small businesses, managed through the Chamber of Commerce. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 9 No: 0

B. MNRTF Application Update – Stanford-Butler reported that this trust fund grant application for Tanglefoot Park Redevelopment had been returned to the Village in April for a few changes. Stanford-Butler said those changes had been made and the application was ready to resubmit once a rework of the boundary map arrived, which she was expecting today. The next time they would hear an update would be in August.

C. Verplank Sculpture Update – Stanford-Butler explained that the sculpture passed the engineers virtual wind test, so now the next step, with the Verplank family and artist, was to find a location for it.

D. Miscellaneous –

- Covid-19 Updates - Burns updated the Board on Covid-19 regarding reopening Village Hall, the cancelation of the Heritage Festival and the 5K related to the festival and that the fate of the fall marathon would be determined later in the summer.
- 109 S. Jackson property - Stanford-Butler shared that Council agreed with the DDA and were open to a property swap with Brandon Brown and Eric Wolf for the 109 S. Jackson property.
- Seven Steps Up - Michelle Hanks shared that Seven Steps Up had been shut down with no revenue since March 8th so, reluctantly, were convinced by other’s to do a GoFundMe campaign and, in a matter of 10 days, reached their goal of $25,000 and that they had also received and additional donation of $10,000 from Lilly Cares. Hanks said they were blown away everyone’s generosity.

VII. Board Member Comment – There were no additional comments from the Board.

VIII. Public Comment – There were no public comments

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Callen, second from Moore, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 a.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Yes: 9 No: 0

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Doug Heins, Chair         Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk