I. Call to Order

Chairman Draeger called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

James Willison was sworn in as a new CBDDA Member.

II. Roll Call:

Present: Draeger (Chair), Dean, Dull, Hanks, Heins, Moore, Nauta and Willison

Staff Present: Christine Burns (Village Manager) & Maryann Fonkert (Deputy Clerk)

Absent: Blake

III. Approval of Minutes (11/12/2015)

Motion by Heins, seconded from Dean, to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2015 regular meeting.

Yes: 8 No: 0

IV. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Moore, seconded from Dean, to approve the Agenda with additions.

Yes: 8 No: 0

V. Business

A. Bridgeview Insurance Façade Grant

Scott Rant from Bridgeview Insurance was present to request a retroactive Façade Grant for the major façade renovation he had done on the exterior of his structure. Burns said that was not something they typically did but they want to encourage this type of renovations. The Board agreed that the renovations met all the criteria and would qualify for the Grant.

Motion by Heins, second from Hanks to approve a Retroactive Façade Grant for Scott Rant from Bridgeview Insurance.

Yes: 8 No: 0
B. Part-time DDA Director

Burns reported that Council had approved a Part-time DDA Director and that $30,000 was set aside for branding and the part-time DDA Director. Burns said there was enough work for that person to work approximately 2 days a week to focus on economic development in the Downtown. Burns said she found that the community of Ithaca was about the same size as the Village so she was using their job description for their DDA Director as a template one for the Village's position. The Board discussed a paid internship but decided there wouldn't be any consistency from year to year. The Board also discussed what a DDA Director would do, how they could be a resource for businesses with local events and activities, helping fill store fronts and creating a downtown that makes people want to stop and shop.

C. Priorities for 2016

Burns reported they were about a year away from tearing down the old Township Hall/Fire Department and that Bruce Callen, a business owner whose property is adjacent to the Village property, took it upon himself to draw up a set of plans for that area that she thought were very interesting. Burns said that in the next few months they would be having serious conversations about what that area would look like. Burns said another goal would be the VanPelt building which needs an environmental analysis and the potential purchaser, Best Financial, is debating whether they want to spend the money to have that done. The Board also discussed the list of DDA projects from the Fourth Amendment to the Restated and Amended Village of Spring Lake Development Plan and TIF Plan for Spring Lake DDA Area.

D. Updates on New Businesses

Burns updated the Board on the new businesses and property sales in the Village. Burns also reported that MDOT said the Village could not have another traffic light on Savidge Street but they did restripe that area. Hanks asked if MDOT would do another traffic study at a later date. Burns said that yes they would if they were asked.

Burns reminded the Board that the Capital Campaign's for Central Park and Whistlestop Park were still going and any and all help was appreciated.

VI. Next Meeting: Thursday, February 11, 2016

VII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

___________________________           ___________________________
Louis Draeger, Chairperson                    Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk