



DDA Economic Restructuring Committee
Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 3:00 pm
Location: DDA Conference Room

Committee Members: Mike Hayes (Chair), Sid Allen, Dave Emmel, Christine Grieve, Darius Gueramy, Neil Hershfield, Ted High, Jack McCandless, Scott Walker, Claudia Wallin

Staff: Denise Hufford

Other: Karl Schwartz, Wolgast

MINUTES

Item	Purpose / Outcome	
1. Building & Business Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Office b. Retail c. Residential d. New Development 	<p>Paper Jems will be closing their Main Street business on May 20th. Will continue as an internet business.</p> <p>Midland Center for the Arts interested in coming downtown – possibly as a theatre and/or art gallery</p> <p>H restaurants will begin opening after June 1st</p> <p>Rich Pomeroy’s 2nd floor apartment is almost done.</p>	
2. Funding for Downtown Retail Study by Buxton	<p>Sid and Mike met with a Buxton representative. As a successful and specialized retail recruitment firm they could help downtown match our retail and restaurant “wants” with firms interested in being in a downtown location. Approximately \$70,000 for their services that would include a psychographic study and list of potential contacts.</p> <p>There is also a Detroit firm with similar services that Sid and Mike will meet with. Once they have met with them the committee can compare services and costs.</p> <p>Denise will check on city rules for hiring outside consultants and the bidding process.</p> <p>Jack asked Denise to look into communities that Buxton has worked for and ask for their recommendation.</p>	
2008 Action Items:	DDA Mission: <i>The Mission of the DDA is to foster a dynamic downtown environment that enables economic growth.</i>	DDA Vision: <i>Small city charm with big city choices</i>



<p>3. Micro Housing Study</p>	<p>Karl Schwartz from Wolgast Construction asked for an in-depth study of the downtown housing market. Would like a public study by Hamilton Anderson that all interested developers could use to look at downtown feasibility. Feels downtown needs more clarity since so much has changed economically since the original study was done over a year ago.</p> <p>Hamilton Anderson has quoted a price of \$10,000 for this study to be done.</p> <p>Mike would like to take the request before the full DDA Board. A motion was made by Claudia and seconded by Darius to take this request to the DDA Board. Unanimous.</p>

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