



DOWNTOWN LAKEVILLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2007

Attendees:

Tracy Hummelgard, Paul Haglund, David Olson, Murray Wilson, Roz Peterson, Candy Retka, Larry Werner, Tom Barnard, Chris Pommerenke, Peter Falanga, Kristin Falanga, Judy Tschumper.

Facilitator – Vice President Paul Haglund

City of Lakeville/Downtown Parking Updates – David Olson

Community and Economic Development Director David Olson presented information on three different parking locations in downtown.

Metro Equity Management Parking Lot

Mark Hotzler has closed on the acquisition of the house adjacent to the parking lot north of the post office. The house will be demolished the week of October 22nd. The size of the parking lot will double in size and the City and Mark are working on access and easement issues. Mark also sent letters to the single family owners adjacent to the lot to discuss his plans. The project will need to get approval from the Planning Commission and City Council which will happen over the winter months and construction to be done in the spring of 2008. This site would be suitable for postal employees to relieve parking for downtown customers.

Vacant (Farmers' Market) Lot

Mark has been working with the City and Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) regarding this site. The proposed project would consist of a commercial development and a "Market Park" (plaza) which would be a permanent home for the Farmers' Market and other downtown events. The property is located within a CDA tax

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Vacant (Markers' Market Lot (cont'd))

increment financing district and the CDA has provided a written commitment to provide funding for the project. In addition, there is an opportunity to apply for a grant to fund the parking and streetscape improvements, an improved pedestrian crossing and bump outs. This is a competitive grant application process and such awarding will be known in January. The project is planned for 2008.

Ben Franklin Lot

The City and Holly Hewitt have been discussing the lot behind Ben Franklin owned by Holly. The plan being proposed is that Holly will retain ownership but the city will manage the property under a three to five year commitment. There is no ability for the City to purchase the property at this time. Maintenance on the property (snow removal, real estate taxes and insurance, etc.) is estimated to be \$2500 to \$3000 a year and would be funded from the Special Service District. The taxes generated from the new Holly's Centre Stage Dance will increase the market value in the Special Service District by ten percent; the value now in the District is \$10 million. The parking area will be separated into a separate outlet and PID number. At some time in the future the parking lot should be repaved but nothing is planned in the short term.

City Update

The City Council's October 15th agenda includes:

- Approval of the Special Service District budget for 2008/2009 and the annual report presented by the DLBA.
- Proclamation for Manufacturer's Week
- Request for off-sale 3.2 malt liquor licenses for Cub Foods and BP.
- Dakota County Capital Improvement Program for transportation needs, i.e. three sections of Dodd Boulevard and County Roads 50, 60 and 70.

Lakeville Area Arts Center Update – Tom Barnard

The Giant Step Children's Theatre has performances through the weekends of October 17-21 and 26-28. There are two casts involving 120 children presenting *Mission to Shadow Mountain*.

The Community Action Council benefit scheduled for October 25th will feature Susan Vass – *From the 60's to My Sixties*. Fudge candies will be served during intermission and desserts following the performance.

Expressions! Lakeville Community Theatre will be performing *Caught in the Act* November 1-2 and 4. Over half of the 18-member cast is comprised of Lakeville residents and business persons. Also in November a two person medley performance of 50's, 60's and 70's music is scheduled.

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Lakeville Area Chamber of Commerce Update – Roz Peterson

The Chamber will be hosting its Fall Gala on October 26th at the Brackett's. On November 8th the Chamber is hosting a Blood Mobile in partnership with Alcorn Beverage.

ISD 194 Update – Roz Peterson

The district has revised its Levy Referendum Fact Sheet to provide better information to residents. If approved, Question 1 would renew the existing levy; Question 2 would result in better start times, busing and class sizes; Question 3 would provide funding to update their computer technology. The polling places will be located at the three middle schools in Lakeville and the Elko/New Market City Hall.

Heritage Library – Murray Wilson

The Friends of the Lakeville Library raised almost \$2000 from their book sale with lots of volunteers being involved. A rain garden is being established between the Library and City Hall – the planting will take place on Saturday, October 20th for those wishing to help. Staff has met with a representative from the Lakeville Teen Corporation and the organization is now holding their meetings at the Library in the Teen Section.

News from Downtown Businesses

Chris Pommerenke reported that Armful of Love is gearing up for the holidays and need volunteers to sponsor families and/or purchase new items for distribution to families. There is a warehouse in Eagan being used to collect donations but DLBA members can drop items off at the CAC office.

Holly's Centre Stage Dance, although not officially open, hosted a preview on Saturday, October 13th. Information received October 17th reports that the studio will be open for tours and class registration on Saturday, October 20th from 2:30 to 4:30 with classes beginning on Monday, October 22nd.

Kazolly's Sweet Shop has signed a five year lease in the Holly's Centre Dance Stage building and will open in mid-November.

Other Business

Report on Harvest Festival

Judy Tschumper reported that the Festival was a big success; the best event thus far in 2007. Over 650 free root beer floats were given away to attendees. The activities of the MW Johnson Petting Farm, ECFE activities for children, the Story Time hosted by the Heritage Library, Hermei the Clown and The Teddy Bear Band were all big hits.

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Report on Harvest Festival (cont'd)

The Amphibian and Reptile Discovery Zoo, a new venue this year, was very successful and will be booked in 2008 for a longer period of time.

Annual Report to City Council

Staff will be presenting the Special Service District/DLBA annual report to the Council on Monday, October 15th. A public hearing is scheduled to consider approval of the imposition of a service charge in the Service District.

Holiday on Main

Saturday, December 1st, is the date for the Holiday on Main. The location for Santa, Mrs. Claus, entertainment and other activities will be held in the Lakeville Mall (post office location). Performances are being booked, both vocal and instrumental, for the Mall location and the Lakeville Area Arts Center. Holly's Centre Stage Dance will again present two recitals at the Arts Center.

The DLBA planters will be removed from main street on Saturday, October 20th by Peter Falanga, Patriot Stove and Fireplace Gallery. DLBA staff had contacted city staff to inform them of this project and the opportunity for the juveniles who vandalized Pioneer Park Plaza to help with this work as restitution. The Police Department reported that the offenders have been fingerprinted, photographed and the County has sentenced them to a diversion program consisting of 25 hours of community service, preferably in Lakeville. Police Department staff are checking with county officials to see if they have fulfilled this sentence. No feedback had been received prior to the removal of the planters.

At the October meeting it was suggested that DLBA members have a way to promote the DLBA website at their places of business. Staff presented a draft placard showing the DLBA logo with the wording:

MEMBER
DOWNTOWN LAKEVILLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
www.downtownlakeville.com

The membership approved the draft and the placards will be printed, laminated and distributed to DLBA businesses.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2007,
10:00 AM, AT MAINSTREET COFFEE CAFÉ, UPPER LEVEL.**