



CITY OF HART

407 S. STATE ST.

HART, MI 49420

Hart Economic and Redevelopment Team (H.E.A.R.T.)

October 4, 2023

MINUTES DRAFT

1) Call to Order

Burillo called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

a) Roll Call

- **Members present:** Catalina Burillo, Noble Graham-Lattin, Hannah Juhl, Justin Adams **Absent:** Sue Payne, Scott Beal, Maria Rosas
- **Others present:** Nichole Kleiner, Tim Kersjes, Mayor Platt

2) **Public Comments** – Tim Kersjes explained what his experience was like as a recipient of the \$2500 Optimize Main Grant. He shared that the process was not too time consuming and going through the courses was a good refresher on best practices for their business. Main Street Spa used the grant money to purchase a wave system for billing and invoicing and a tablet for dedicated business use. Tim thanked the board for the opportunity and would recommend the program.

3) **Approval of the Consent Agenda** - Motion by Adams, supported by Juhl to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

4) Action Items

- a) **Appoint Hannah Juhl as Chair** – Motion by Noble, supported by Adams to appoint Hannah Juhl as chair. Motion carried.
- b) **Authorize spending for Artwalk & Hartprize in the amount of \$1750** – Nichole shared that the cost of printing the photos for Hartprize, fall decorations and the HartPrize cash prize in the amount of \$750 would cost approximately \$1750 and asked the board for permission to spend. Motion by Adams, supported by Graham-Lattin to authorize \$1750 towards Artwalk, Hartprize and Fall Decorations. Motion carried.
- c) **Authorize Director to solicit applications for the Match on Main Grant and apply to the MEDC based on the boards recommended applicant.** Motion by Burillo, supported by Adams to authorize director to apply for the Match on Main Grant. Motion carried.

5) Updates/Discussion Items

a) **Mural Update** – Nichole reported that after two listening sessions with our immigrant families and migrant workers, Grand Rapids artist Hugo Claudin will begin a large mural on the north wall of LaProbadita the weekend of Artwalk depicting the lives and stories he heard in the listening sessions.

b) Upcoming Events:

Fall Decorating Oct 4th at 4:30

Developer Day October 6th – visiting the Ceres site

Artwalk & Hartprize photo contest Oct 7 + tin man ribbon cutting

Noble & Hannah asked if downtown decorating contests would be taking place along with downtown trick-or-treating. Nichole agreed to pass this along to the events coordinator.

6) **Board Member Comments** – Nichole asked the board to come up with a “wish list” for Hart and the ideas mentioned are as follows:

- a) Focus on making Hart a bicycle friendly downtown. Fittings at bike stations don't work (the blue clips). Designate lanes leading bikers downtown from 72nd to Main Street
- b) Put calendar info the the information booth downtown in front of courthouse
- c) Demo all buildings on Ceres property except for the original mill
- d) More lights downtown, very dark at night
- e) Can we get a fountain somewhere
- f) Better utilize pocket park – have a dedication & rename in 2024
- g) More water access downtown
- h) More trash cans down Main Street & on rail trail (not sure who maintains)
- i) Festival-style race/triathlon starting and ending at Hart Lake.
- j) Themed boat parade, kayakers poker run
- k) Fresh mulch for playground at Liberty Park and John Gurney Park
- l) Pedestrian right of way signs for people crossing at the commons across State at the angled intersection.

7) Adjournment – Motion to adjourn made by Cat, supported by Justin. Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Williams', written in a cursive style.

Economic & Community Development Director