

DDA and Planning Commission Meeting Minutes  
Byron Municipal Building  
March 17, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairperson Vandemark

**Roll Call** – Present: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. Absent: Bowers. Total 8 members were present with 1 absent (Bowers). Also present, Attorney Christopher S. Johnson of Gormley and Johnson Law Offices, PLC, hereinafter referred to as Attorney Johnson.

**Agenda Approval:** Bessenbacher motioned to approve agenda for 3/17/22. Seconded by Russell. Voice Vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion passed.

**Minutes Approval:** Bessenbacher motioned to approve minutes of 2/17/22 meeting. Seconded by Russell. Voice vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion passed.

**Communications:** Vandemark read email from Bowers that she would be stepping down from her seat on the DDA. Vandemark expressed that Bowers will be missed. Dickinson motioned to accepted resignation. Seconded by Baker-Murph. Voice Vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion Passed.

**Financial Status Report/Payment of Bills:** Miller reported balance as of 2/28/22 as \$39,357.52 per bank statement and Village financial records. Bill presented for payment: 1) \$295 to Village of Byron for Jan/Feb 2022 Village Clerk, Village Treasurer, and Recording Secretary Wages. Dickinson motioned to pay bill as presented. Seconded by Bailey. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion passed. Vandemark indicated Financial Status report accepted, pending audit. No vote.

**2021 Planning Commission Report:** Miller presented copies of the 2021 Planning Commission Report. There was no Planning Commission activity during the 2021 calendar year. Bessenbacher motioned to approve the report to present to the Village Council. Seconded by Bailey. Voice vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion Passed.

**MEDC/RRC update:** Vandemark reported that Chris Germain spoke at the 3/14/2022 Village Council meeting to discuss the MEDC's RRC (Redevelopment Ready Community). Vandemark had a PowerPoint presentation for DDA/PC to show the information that the Council had been presented in paper form at their meeting. Council tabled any decision to continue with the program until a special meeting on 3/28/2022 at 7pm. Process is in the decision-making stage currently. There's still a long list of items for Village to meet RRC certification requirements. Vandemark asked for thoughts from DDA/PC members. Dickinson expressed that the Village should it at least try. At least the requirements will bring the Village

DDA and Planning Commission Meeting Minutes  
Byron Municipal Building  
March 17, 2022

closer to being up to date.

**Projects - Wayfinding Signs:** Vandemark has spoken with Edwards Sign of Owosso. We're discussing two new wayfinding signs at the Southwest and Northeast corners of Maple & Saginaw Streets, to possibly replace the existing blue and green directional signs. Vandemark asked for thoughts on ridding of vs keeping the directional signs for area cities, & US23. Dickinson gave input that GPS is used and that the existing directions aren't exactly accurate as they just point in the general direction. Miller expressed that visitors to the Village don't always know which way to turn and that not everyone has or uses GPS. Discussion on what information to put on the sign. For the SW corner sign (coming from the High School heading toward the Elem. School), include Elementary School, Post Office, Municipal Building, and Cemetery. For the NE corner sign (coming from Elem. School heading toward High School), include High/Middle School, Athletic Fields, Canoe Launch, Community Park, Comm. District Library, and Fire/Township Hall. Vandemark will send info to Edwards Sign to get an updated price quote.

For other projects, Vandemark spoke with Doug at Rowe Engineering about a conceptual drawing of a possible river walk project. Doug suggested that there be a meeting including the Village, Rowe, DDA/PC, and Public to kick off the discussion and host a Charette. Once completed, then they would put together a conceptual drawing of the project. Estimate from Rowe for two meetings is \$1,600 and conceptual design at \$3,400 for total of \$5,000. Vandemark asked for thoughts from members. Miller expressed that seems like a lot of money to just get ideas. Dickinson expressed that it needs to be done and getting professional help with ideas and a drawing would help others to see the concept. Russell and Baker-Murph both asked if the school was on board or could it be considered to have a river walk on the school side of the bridge. Vandemark answered by saying that area floods. General discussion about possibilities with landowners and it would help if they could see an idea of a proposed project. Dickinson motioned to move forward with the proposal for meetings and conceptual drawing by Rowe. Seconded by Baker-Murph. Roll Call vote. Ayes: Brittain, Russell, Baker-Murph, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Dickinson, Miller, and Vandemark. No Nays. 1 Absent. Motion passed. Miller asked Attorney Johnson if TIF funds could be used for this meeting and drawing and the answer was not if it's not in the current Development Plan. Vandemark will reach back out to Rowe Engineering and report back.

**Fundraisers – River Regatta:** Moving forward with the annual River Regatta for July 9, 2022. Vandemark will start getting the stuff around. Russell report on possible dates for a golf outing fundraising. Discussion for having it possibly on 9/17/22. She will check on that date to see if available.

Russell reported on food truck idea that she spoke to a food truck owner who said that the City of Corunna charges \$35 per truck for space at their summer events. No further discussion about food truck fundraiser.

**Any Other Business:** No other business to discuss

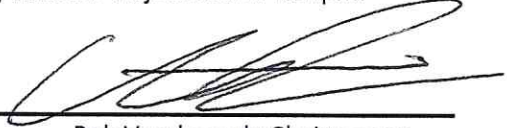
DDA and Planning Commission Meeting Minutes  
Byron Municipal Building  
March 17, 2022

**Public and Board Member Comments:** No public present. No Board Comments.

**Meeting adjournment:** Dickinson motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Russell. Adjourned at 7:24pm.

  
Beverly Miller, Acting Recording Secretary

Date

  
Rob Vandemark, Chairperson  
Christopher Dickinson, Vice-Chairperson