

**DDA and Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Byron Municipal Building**  
**January 19, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairperson Vandemark

**Roll Call:** Present - Dickinson, Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Brittain, Vandemark. Absent at the time of Roll call, Amsterburg, Russell. Russell arrived at 6:20pm. Total 8 members present and 1 absent.

**Agenda Approval:** Motion to approve agenda for January 19, 2023 meeting made by Baker-Murph, seconded by Bessenbacher. Voice vote: Ayes - Dickinson, Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Brittain, Vandemark. Nays - None. Motion passed.

**Minutes Approval:** Motion to approve meeting minutes from December 15, 2023 made by Miller, seconded by Baker-Murph. Voice Vote: Ayes - Dickinson, Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Brittain, Vandemark. Nays - None. Motion passed.

**Communications:** Scott Brittain was the only member to attend every meeting in 2022

**Financial Status Report:** Dec 30 bank statement balance - \$44,014.51. Bill pay - 1 bill to pay to Rowe Professional Services for revisions to the riverwalk plan. Motion made by Dickinson to pay \$165 bill for revisions to Rowe, seconded by Bailey. Roll call Vote: Ayes - Dickinson, Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Brittain, Vandemark. Nays - none. Motion passed.

**Semi-Annual TIF Report:** Miller gave members a handout and explained in detail. Motion made by Dickinson to accept TIF report, seconded by Brittain. Roll call vote: Ayes - Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Brittain, Dickinson, Vandemark. Nays - none.

**Election of Officers:** Dickinson made motion to set officers as follows: Vandemark as Chairperson, Miller as Treasurer, Baker-Murph as Vice Chairperson, motion seconded by Brittain. Voice vote: Ayes - Dickinson, Miller, Bessenbacher, Bailey, Baker-Murph, Russell, Brittain, Vandemark. Nays - None.

**RRC Updates:** Vandemark referenced the handout that we received from the December meeting. The Village council should form committees. Members do not have to be council members and can be appointed from the general public. The appointees don't necessarily have to live within the Village of Byron. The members could produce a "want list" to move Byron further toward compliance.

**CEDAM Fellowship Update:** Byron was not approved. Laingsburg was awarded the fellow. Laingsburg to guide Byron and possibly share their fellow. There is a similar program called AmeriCorp that could be investigated. Vandemark explained we can also look into the

Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership. Ashley Connelly helps communities in Shiawassee county. The buy in for the LionBear program is \$1,000. Vandemark explained the benefits. We need to inquire what the plan is for the empty/lame properties in the Village. Miller inquired if we can join SEDP at any time if the rate is the same or if it is reduced if we enter late or if they just extend the membership to 12 months from the time we joined.

**Riverwalk Design Update:** Are we going to move forward? Should we break the project into phases? How do we proceed? We could get a Sparks grant to begin the project but the deadline is approaching. The playground equipment in the park needs to be removed. More discussion about phases of Riverwalk.

**Future project ideas:** Russell is going to proceed in getting information on a pocket park.

**Events:** Bi-Centennial is coming in July of 2024. If there is going to be a celebration, we need a committee to direct it.

**Planning Committee:** NOthing.

**Other business:** NOthing

**Public/Board Comments:** The golf outing preparation is underway. There have been inquiries about entry fees. We should put a flier together to send to veteran teams. We could possibly send out Save the Date and for early bird registration.

MOtion to adjourn by Miller, seconded by Dickinson. Adjourned 7:18 pm.

Antoinette Preston  
Recording Secretary

2/16/23

Rob Vandemark  
CHAIRMAN