



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Ackley, Allen, Ambrose, Blair, Lublin, Marshal, Millen, Shuman,

**ABSENT:** Easter, Smith, Wlodarczyk,

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Finance Director Pesta, DDA Managing Director Jaquays, Chief Shakinas, Captain Kolke

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: NONE**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**1. Regular DDA Meeting of August 10, 2021**

**DDA 09-01-21 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 10, 2021 MEETING**

Motion by Millen, supported by Blair: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the minutes from the August 10, 2021 meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. DDA Chairman Ambrose Report on Walled Lake Community Playhouse: Jewish Ensemble Theatre (JET) August Performance**

DDA Chairman Ambrose said he received positive feedback from the two performances held August 27<sup>th</sup> and August 28<sup>th</sup>.

DDA Executive Director Whitt said the event was well attended with an average of 300 people per performance. Mr. Whitt said there was inclement weather Sunday evening with high winds and rain, so the third performance was cancelled. Mr. Whitt provided history on the Walled Lake Community Playhouse, also known as JET, and said that the theatre originated in West

Bloomfield. Mr. Whitt said Chris Bremer, the Executive Director, has organized multiple shows at JET's studio. Mr. Whitt described the outdoor theater experience and how the recently paved asphalt parking lot was used as seating for audience members. Mr. Whitt said this was the first time the City hosted such an event. Mr. Whitt reported that the Parks and Recreation expressed an interest in participation for future performances. Mr. Whitt said the City expects to host similar events next year. Mr. Whitt thanked DDA Chairman Ambrose, Mayor Ackley, and Council Members who provided support for the event.

DDA Board Member Lublin said he was very impressed with the sound quality, staging, and the layout of the seating. Mr. Lublin said the event was executed well.

DDA Chairman Ambrose echoed Mr. Lublin's comments and said the performance lighting was outstanding.

## **2. Update on Farmers Market Activity & Report on Public Safety Campus**

DDA Executive Director Whitt said there are two more months left of the farmers market.

DPW Team Lead Dan Ladd said this summer has brought challenges with the amount of rain that has been happening. Mr. Ladd said with Nagel's assistance, the stone and gravel was able to be compacted. Mr. Ladd said the water infrastructure improvements included installing a fire hydrant and a service line to the yard hydrant for a handwashing station for the farmers market. Mr. Ladd said it has been challenging to grow grass due to the heavy rains. Mr. Ladd said DTE has assisted with electricity access on site.

DDA Executive Director Whitt said he will report back on when the bridge will officially be open. Mr. Whitt expressed his thanks to the DDA and their support for developing the public safety campus.

## **3. Mayor Ackley's Trunk-or-Treat**

DDA Board Member Ackley said she will be meeting with staff to begin planning for this year's Trunk-or-Treat event. Ms. Ackley said her hope is to have more trunks than last year.

DDA Board Member Millen said he is planning for an event similar to last year featuring a petting zoo and a food component. Mr. Millen said if the board has any ideas, please let him know.

### **DDA 09-02- 21      MOTION TO FUND THE PETTING ZOO FOR THE TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT**

Motion by Blair, supported by Lublin: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To fund the petting zoo for the trunk or treat event

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

## 1. Local Road Pavement Update and Decker Road Sidewalk Project Update

DDA Executive Director Whitt said the DDA committed to improving the gateway into Walled Lake's business district. Mr. Whitt said originally the sidewalks were going to be done while Decker Road was getting done.

DPW Team Lead Dan Ladd reported that a couple large trees were removed in preparation for the sidewalk improvements. Mr. Ladd said DPW assisted the tree company during the removal process. Mr. Ladd reported that Nagel started to remove the dirt. Mr. Ladd noted some areas along Decker that will be raised. Mr. Ladd said Nagel will be working as long as weather permits.

DDA Executive Director Whitt said the DDA has supported a walkable community through their actions and funding. Mr. Whitt said the decision for the DDA to support the Decker Road sidewalk improvements will serve the community well as Decker Road is a gateway road into Walled Lake.

DDA Chairman Ambrose commended City Administration, DPW, Fire Department, and Police Department for their hard work.

### WARRANT REPORT:

#### DDA 09-03- 21      APPROVAL TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE WARRANT FOR AUGUST 2021

Motion by Lublin, supported by Blair: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To receive and file the warrant for August 2021.

### DDA BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

### ADJOURNMENT:

#### DDA 09-04-21      ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ambrose, seconded by Lublin; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.



Hana Jaquays  
DDA Managing Director

Casey Ambrose  
DDA Chairman