

PDBA GM MIN 9-17-2014

Board of Directors: Glen Konopaskie, Phil Wojtowicz, Kathie Henk, Kyle Westberg, Robert Karazim, Ted Buckner, (Bob Waun absent out of state on business)

Phil Wojtowicz opened meeting with round the room introduction by attendees, followed by introduction of guest presenter: Deborah Schutt, Executive Director from the Woodward Avenue Action Association (WA3) 30947 Woodward Ave Ste 200, Royal Oak, MI 48073, 248-288-2004 admin@woodwardavenue.org, or www.woodwardavenue.org .

Deborah gave some historical facts about this 27 mile link (M-1) from Detroit to Pontiac: one of 10 Michigan citizens lives in communities that border M-1 and 100 annual events are held along M-1 with the biggest being Dream Cruise. WA3 has received federal recognition as an All American Road, one of 30 in the nation. WA3 is a 501c3 non profit looking at ways to improve this highway for pedestrians, bicyclists, rapid transit and automobiles in a project called "Complete Streets". A heritage project in process is seeking funds to renovate and preserve the Ford Administration Building and Executive Garage at the Ford Highland Park Plant on Woodward Avenue to create an Automobile Heritage Welcome Center and open this site to the public. Deborah's slide show also showed several buildings in Pontiac that were part of the growth of the auto industry that changed the mobility of the world. She encourages membership to WA3 by cities, organizations and individuals who are interested in preserving the historical significance of this roadway and its importance to improving all aspects of life along this All American Road for the future.

Michael Buettcher, PDBA Downtown Manager, gave an update to tasks he is working on this past month: Checking out parking issues and ordinances using the Kalamazoo model; Two bids are already in and a third is expected for striping the streets; Working with Oakland Mainstreet on building a tenant base for our downtown; ERC now has a chairman, Ted Buckner; Design Committee, under Kathie Henk is connecting with the DIA in pursuit of another year in the Inside/Out program; M-59 will be resurfaced from Telegraph to Woodward in the next month; Lastly, that street sweeping in our downtown will be accomplished in October.

Design Committee chairperson, Kathie Henk, said the wayside markers are completed and in our possession and installation plans are in place. There are still some available for \$400 purchase. This major art project, along with the DIA Inside/OUT and our local Canvas Pontiac will be another permanent asset to make our city and downtown pedestrian friendly.

Khalfani Stephens from the Michigan Economic Commission said funds are still available in the skilled trades development. Anyone interested can contact him at 517-410-9377 to learn more about accessing funds for training through your business.

Pontiac EDA steering committee have contracted with OHM as advisors to develop a city wide development plan and hope this can be accomplished in nine months and ready for June 2015.

Promotions Committee co-chair Christian Marcillo explained that we need more volunteers but are planning annual events when we meet at ELEKTRICITY at 5:15 on Tuesdays. At this time we are helping sell tickets, Karen Jorgensen has personally sold 8 tables, for Elf Magic, the only fundraiser for the 33rd Holiday Extravaganza Event and Parade to be held here in downtown Pontiac on Saturday Dec 6. The Elf Magic Benefit will be held Tuesday, October 14 from 6 to 9 PM at the Fieldstone Golf Club at 1984 Taylor Rd, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. Tickets are \$30 individual, \$50 a couple, \$250 for a table of 8.

The Promotions Committee is also in planning stages for our annual Pontiac Tree Lighting and Caroling event on Friday, Dec 5; and gathering volunteers for the greeting of parade goers for Saturday, Dec 6, 2014. We are also working on locating a host site for our yearly PDBA meeting/recognition event on Wed. Dec 17. The spring 2015 will find our committee involved in the Canvas Pontiac and DIA art launches. On hold, but in a planning stage, is a notification program on parking when that project is ready to be activated for our downtown.

Organization Committee needs a chairperson, presently our president Glenn Konopaskie, is leading each meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 4PM at DT51Grille in the meeting area of Future Help Designs on the second floor. The next project is to create three booklets: Business Booklet; Property Owner Booklet; and a Realtor Booklet. More volunteers are needed so please consider joining this committee.

Blain McGowan is hosting an open-house from 9AM to 11AM on Saturday, Sept 20 at the Phoenix Center to provide a first hand view of the structure and parking area under consideration for demolition. The town hall presentation about the future of this structure has been postponed.

A discussion about downtown on-street parking was led by Phil Wojtowicz and Glenn Konopaskie explaining that an addendum to the SP+ parking contract will provide the city with an annual payment of \$8,000 plus 1% of profits from the annual \$24,000 guaranteed from SP+ to the PDBA. This addendum must be passed before the city will address the two ordinances needed to complete the contract for submission to TAB for approval.

Blair McGowan, from the PDBA parking subcommittee, made a motion to “support the on-street parking contract addendum worked out between the city and the PDBA”. Motion seconded by Bo Young. Following a short question-answer session a show of hands for paid PDBA members passed the addendum with 25 yes and 1 no vote.

Open Membership Announcements:

April Ogg, Alan and Linda Kovan will be hosting a ribbon-cutting and openhouse on October 10 starting at 4 PM sharp, at their business Saginaw Street Consignments, between Henk Studio and Lafayette Market. 10% of the sales will be donated to the Haven.

On Tuesday, Sept 23 at noon, The Local Business Network will meet at 53 North in the office conference area of Future Help Designs on the second floor of Downtown 51 Grille. It is a chance to meet other business owners and everyone is welcome to network.

On Tuesday, Sept 23 from 7 – 10 PM is a chance to enjoy Renaissance Entertainment at the “Pop-Up” Museum at 7 North Saginaw run by volunteers from the Oakland County Pioneer Historical Society.

Jay Berger announced he is planning to open a new leather business in our downtown at 87 N Saginaw. An opening date will be provided when his move-in is complete.

Lauren Goosik requested that businesses consider hanging lighting from the top of buildings for the holiday season to brighten our downtown.

Robert Karazim motioned to adjourn and seconded by Bo Young. Meeting ended 7:20 PM.

Minutes of meeting provided by Maureen Young, Promotions Committee volunteer