

## **PDBA General Membership Meeting Jan 21, 2015**

Director Attendees: Glen Konopaskie, Jim Cunningham, Robert Karazim, Kathie Henk, Phil Wojtowicz, Ted Buckner, Kyle Westberg, absent Bob Waun

Glen reminded membership that the second Monday of every month a meeting with city officials is held. Any concerns should be submitted to Glen one week ahead of time, the first week of the month.

### Design Committee Report:

- Parking – pay stations are being installed and probably going live in mid February. Signage will be going up asap.
- Historic – 24 of 27 markers are now installed. Two markers are still available at \$400 each which includes installation. Contact Kathie Henk if interested in a purchase.
- Canvas Pontiac – [www.canvaspontiac.com](http://www.canvaspontiac.com) has all the information on 2D art works. A new aspect for Canvas Pontiac 3D still needs to be launched.
- “Saginaw Green” - Crowd-funding fundraiser will be launched on February 11 for our PDBA park purchase across from Henk Studio on Saginaw Street

Economic Restructuring Committee Report: Ted Buckner states that this committee needs more volunteers in order to make progress.

### Promotions Report:

- “Saginaw Green” – the crowd-funding launch will be a wine and cheese event on February 11 at 103 N. Saginaw, next to the proposed park. This campaign will last for 30 days.
- An Information Parking Campaign will be activated with a ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ format to let people know about our new parking system.
- May is National Historic Month – A launch party is being planned to celebrate auto heritage and events will be scheduled to inform the community of the 57 citywide wayside markers being installed.
- Canvas Pontiac 2015 call for artists has been launched and that committee is looking for more 3D sponsors.
- Lastly, the December PDBA meeting was an awards event to recognize contributions by our volunteers. Recognition was recognized in the Oakland Press, Crains Business, and several other newspapers. Oakland County Executive Congratulation letters were also sent to all recognized volunteers.

Two voting items are postponed relating to the 2015 budget and PDBA financial update.

Phil Wojtowicz asked for our support of the Woodward Redevelopment Plan finalized in April 2014.

Bo Young made a motion: "The PDBA membership hereby supports the Downtown Pontiac Transportation Assessment final draft dated April 2014." This was seconded by Mickey Cook. Discussion followed concerning the Phoenix Plaza. Phil Wojtowicz said that this study had two alternatives: one with the Phoenix Plaza reinstated as a viable structure and the second with the Phoenix Plaza demolished. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Phil will be reporting this vote at a meeting at 1 PM to be held Jan 27, 2015 at the Oakland County Executive Building.

The PDBA Board recommends an increase in yearly membership dues which is the major financial stabilizer for our base operational costs of our nonprofit volunteer organization. Linda Zabik moved to increase the dues so businesses would pay \$120 instead of \$100 and individuals would go from \$50 to \$60. This was seconded by Robert Karazim.

Some discussion followed the motion read: "The PDBA membership hereby supports the increase of membership dues by 20% effective Thursday, January 22, 2015. The motion was passed unanimously.

A financial 2014 update summary was given and more details will be available in February.

The PDBA no longer has a safety committee, although we still gather data each month from the sheriff's department. Our Pontiac downtown is one of the safest in the region with 0.15 incidents per business day with a total of 31 in December with 2/3 happening during late night club hours. It takes the sheriff's department 2.7 minutes after contact to respond to a downtown help call. This is positive information to share with the news media.

The Main Street Oakland County Award Nomination Packet is now available. As a Main Street Community we can start submissions now. The recognition event will be held May 2015.

Good news from October 2014 to January 2015 seven new businesses have come to our downtown.

The EDA (Economic Development Administration) Pontiac City Wide Economic Development Plan Steering Committee is composed of the following: 1) Mayor, city council, planning commission, plus one open seat; 2) Three seats from county representatives; and 3) One seat for the PDBA president. The goal of this committee is the creation of a City Wide Economic Development Plan (CWEDP). The consultants selected for the EDA grant process is OHM Advisors. The final CWEDP is expected by the end of May 2015.

Meeting adjourned 7:40 PM

Minutes taken by Maureen Young