

**Meeting Minutes
Fremont Downtown Development Authority (DDA)**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2011
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Fremont City Hall
Council Chambers**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 a.m. by chair Lon Vredeveld.

Members Present:	Lon Vredeveld Marianne Boerigter Sheryl Miller James M. Rynberg Randy Stasik Bob Stehouwer Ron Vliem Gail Warnemaat Chris Youker	DDA Chair Executive Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts Downtown Business/Property Owner Fremont Mayor Chief Executive Officer, Spectrum Health – Gerber Memorial Downtown Business/Property Owner Executive Director, Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Newaygo Conservation District Downtown Business Owner
Members Absent:	Kim Deur Rob Zeldenrust	Downtown Business/Property Owner DDA District Business Manager
Guests Present:	Bonnie Erber	DDA Marketing Chair
Staff Present:	Michele Ribant	Fremont Neighborhood & Economic Development Director

Approval of DDA Minutes

A motion was made by Randy Stasik, seconded by Marianne Boerigter and carried to approve the minutes from the August 31, 2011 DDA meeting.

Update on the DDA Public Art Program

Marianne Boerigter, chair of the DDA Public Art Subcommittee, informed the DDA that the DDA Public Art Subcommittee is fundraising to raise money for a collection of paintings of nature by local artist, Jane Stroschin that will be hung on the large east wall at 37 E. Main Street. She indicated that the owner, Gerry Rich, has agreed to paint the

building a color within the Façade Improvement Grant Program Design Guidelines. She said that the Artsplace hosted a fundraiser on October 4, 2011 and raised funds to kick off the effort.

Update on the Façade/Historic Preservation Subcommittee

A. Consideration of Funding Request – Façade Improvement Grant Program (20 E. Main Street)

Ron Vliem outlined the funding request for 20 E. Main Street as follows:

20 E. Main Street

Murphy and Caris, Attorney at Law

Owner: Ted Caris

Rear façade:

- New decking
- Restoration of support beams
- New metal doors
- Gutter and downspout
- New stairway system

Funding requested: \$6,116.16

A motion was made by Marianne Boerigter, seconded by Bob Stehouwer and carried to recommend to the Fremont City Council approval of the funding request through the Fremont Façade Improvement Grant program for rear façade work as detailed above for the building located at 20 E. Main Street in the amount of \$6,116.16.

B. Consideration of Funding Request – Façade Improvement Grant Program (10 W. Main Street)

Ron Vliem outlined the funding request for 10 W. Main Street as follows:

10 W. Main Street

Vacant

Owner: Paul Mellema

Front Façade

- Install 3 upstairs windows
- Prime and paint window trim – color: White Hyacinth
- Install new front window (west side only)

Requested funding: \$1,317.76

Rear Façade

- New stairwell to 2nd floor
- New exterior door

Requested funding: \$1, 310.00

Total Funding Requested: \$2,627.76

A motion was made by Gail Warnemaat, seconded by Randy Stasik, and carried to recommend to the Fremont City Council approval of the funding request through the Fremont Façade Improvement Grant program for front and rear façades of the building located at 10 W. Main Street in the amount of \$2,627.76.

Ron Vliem said that it was agreed the brick on the sides in the rear of 10 W. Main Street needs to be cleaned up, but it was recognized that there is not a clear solution as how best to do that, so no action with regard to the brick was taken.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

A. Welcome Wagon Package

A “Welcome Wagon” package of information was passed around. Chair Vredevelde reported that this package will be presented to new downtown business owners; it contains information on signage and DDA programs that are available. Bonnie Erber suggested that a summary of what is included in the package be provided with the materials.

B. Consumers Energy Small Business Solutions

Lon Vredevelde explained the benefits for business owners in taking part in the Consumers Energy Small Business Solutions program. He explained that an audit was performed on his lighting system and that while it cost him \$1,000.00, he expects to realize the savings before a year is up. It was explained that the downtown business owners will be invited to a town hall meeting to learn more about the program.

Next Meeting

To be determined.

Adjournment

There being no other business of the DDA, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.