



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Public Policy Committee

Public Policy Committee
Brad Ballein, Chair
Vivian Keeney
Lynsey Clayton

Staff
Lori Mullins
Heater Pope
Terri Soliday

City of East Lansing
DEPARTMENT OF
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COMMUNITY
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Synopsis

April 21, 2016 – 12:00 PM

City of East Lansing
Conference Room A

Attendees: Brad Ballein, Lynsey Clayton, Vivian Keeney, Lori Mullins, Terri Soliday

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

2. Public Comment – None.

3. Review of Façade Improvement Program Eligible Improvements

Mullins said the DDA has been receiving applications for the Façade Improvement Program; these applications go to the Business & Market Development Committee for review and recommendation to the DDA. She said the committee felt the application from Musselman Realty was for deferred maintenance and was not what was intended to be reimbursed under the program. She indicated the DDA board members had the same concerns and asked that the program guidelines be reviewed by the Public Policy Committee. She said staff looked at façade improvement programs in other communities, and their programs looked similar to ours. She added that we received an application from Colledgeville Textbook also, and they want to do tuck pointing.

Clayton said she was okay with repairs if they are part of an architectural enhancement or façade improvement. She said Musselman Realty proposed to do mainly repairs to their building.

The committee then discussed language changes to the Façade Improvement Program Guidelines, including listing goals for the program, restricting the eligible improvements, and clarifying the Design Guidelines. They also discussed adding phased improvements if the funds are available and first-time applicants are given priority. A suggestion was made to reimburse for repairs at 20%, with a cap of \$2,000. The committee asked staff to make the changes to the program guidelines and bring it back to the DDA for consideration. It was noted that the current program expires on May 15, 2017, so they recommended that any applications already received be evaluated under the current guidelines.

There being no other business, the committee adjourned at 1:20 p.m.