

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL,
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND
BRIGHTON ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2011, BRIGHTON COMMUNITY CENTER,
555 BRIGHTON ST, BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN 48116**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Muzzin called the Special Joint meeting of the City Council, Downtown Development Authority and Brighton Arts & Culture Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called. Present were Mayor Muzzin, Mayor Pro-Tem Cooper, Councilmembers Bohn, Bandkau, Roblee and Pipoly, Downtown Development Authority Board Members Muzzin, Miller, Corrigan, Pipoly and Wirth and Brighton Arts & Culture Commission Members Roblee, Lawrence, Takagi and Tobbe, with a total of 68 attendees.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Cooper, seconded by Pipoly to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

It was moved by Downtown Development Authority Member Corrigan, seconded by Wirth to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

It was moved by Brighton Arts & Culture Commission Member Teahan, seconded by Lawrence to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin gave a Call to the Public at 7:02 p.m. The following comments were heard:

Pat Cole, Brighton City, stated the Mill Pond project should go to the people for a vote.

Herb Fisher would like to donate a piece of art to memorialize his late daughter.

Colin Miller, downtown business owner, stated putting tax dollars into the downtown projects helps keep small businesses growing.

Susan Walters-Steinacker stated taxes are horrendous in the City of Brighton.

Larry Lawrence, Spencer Road, stated the DDA spends money on what they are supposed to spend their money on and property values are kept up by keeping a vibrant downtown.

Hearing no further comment, Mayor Muzzin closed the Call to the Public at 7:09 p.m.

INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION OF THE MILL POND MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Claudia Roblee stated the new Mill Pond Master Plan was inspired by the Envision Brighton World Café. The DDA asked the Brighton Arts & Culture Commission to partner with them for the Mill Pond Design Committee.

Mondi Miller stated the comments from Envision Brighton were compiled as to what people wanted to see in their downtown and Piet Lindhout put a plan together. She thanked Piet Lindhout, Matt Modrack, Claudia Roblee and everyone for coming tonight.

Piet Lindhout presented the 2011 Mill Pond Master Plan. He introduced Mike O'Leary, Project Manager and Scott Kree, Urban Planner. He discussed what is a master plan is, the 1992 Master Plan, Mill Pond Park Design, Criteria and the Preliminary Mill Pond Master Plan.

Scott Kree described the detail of the Mill Pond Master Plan including landscaping, seating areas, cemetery area, walkways, splash pad, water wall, informational board, boat rental, ice skating, trail system connection, Firemen's Memorial, 911 Memorial, shelter area and picnic tables.

Mr. Lindhout described the proposed steel structure pedestrian bridge going across Grand River.

Public comments and questions included the following:

- Is the pedestrian bridge ADA compliant?
- Can the pedestrian crossing to under the road? Not without raising the road considerably.
- Boat rental.
- Ducks feed on the grass currently at the Mill Pond. A hard surface would help move the ducks away from that area.
- Consider the real value of the Mill Pond, which is a natural environment for wildlife and cleaning out the natural habitat, will get rid of the wildlife.
- Need to dredge the Mill Pond.
- Paddleboats currently get stuck in weeds.
- Make sure some of the new proposed shrubbery is able to house the natural wildlife.
- Great festivals downtown but they do not accommodate families to sit and eat their food and enjoy the festival.
- Concerns regarding the timing of this project and Veteran's Memorial and the importance of keeping the Veteran's Memorial progressing.
- The War Memorial is a separate project from the Mill Pond Master Plan.
- Sculptures in the Old Village cemetery.
- Raised planters will be much easier for the Garden Club.
- Description of the proposed new Brighton Community Center.
- Switch the current Community Center and City Hall locations.
- Where are people to go in an emergency situation?
- Community gardens and community canners.
- Like to see the gazebo as multipurpose with movies, weddings, and bands.
- YMCA and/or YWCA.
- Who is going to take care of and pay for the improvements for the next 20 years?
- Keep the downtown as a great part of the community.
- What elements or the project are the priorities? We need more activity for teens.
- Funding is a big issue.

- The plaza and gazebo area will be the first part of the project.
- SELCRA is putting together a forum with a Teen Council.
- Get the Teen Counsel involved to see what they want in the project.
- Underdeveloped area of Ore Creek.
- Linking the project to Ore Creek and sidewalks are a CIP project.
- There are dead end sidewalks in the Walnut Street area.
- Needed CIP projects and how to fund them?
- Possible 2012 bond issue to fund needed CIP projects.
- Traffic light instead of a pedestrian bridge across Grand River.
- There is a Y program in Livingston County, but they have no building.
- Put the plan on the Downtown Brighton website at downtownbrighton.com
- Commend you for putting all of these ideas together from Envision Brighton. The downtown keeps families in the community. This is a good thing for the community.
- Commend the work from a recreational standpoint. People are preferring self-directed recreation.
- People are moving to Brighton because of the downtown, because of what we do, businesses etc. We are trying to improve instead of doing nothing.
- People move into the area because of the downtown.
- Quality of life and a naturally beautiful place.
- An art contribution for a proposed memorial for Sarah Fisher Kowal.
- The Brighton Biennial Art Exhibit could display a piece of the deceased artist's work.
- This building is a waste of money and the City does not make information available regarding current parks in the City of Brighton.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Muzzin gave a Call to the Public at 8:39 p.m. The following comments were heard:

Pat Cole stated there is more to Brighton City than business on Main Street and we need emergency shelters in the City.

A Brighton teacher stated all the schools are designated as emergency shelters. Wherever there is a school, there is a shelter. The Red Cross certifies the schools as shelters.

Hearing no further comment, Mayor Muzzin closed the Call to the Public at 8:42 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Muzzin thanked everyone for attending and stated we are one of the luckiest Cities in the state, as we have 50 % Residential and 50% Business.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Brighton Arts & Culture Commission Member Teahan, seconded by Takagi to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion passed.

It was moved by Downtown Development Authority Member Wirth, seconded by Corrigan to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion passed.

It was moved by Councilmember Bandkau, seconded by Cooper to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Motion passed.

Diana Lowe, City Clerk

James Muzzin, Mayor

**City of Brighton
Arts & Culture Commission Minutes
Regular Meeting – December 12, 2011**

1. **Call to Order**

Claudia Roblee called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and the roll call was taken:

Claudia Roblee – Present
CJ Teahan – Present
MJ Takagi – Absent

Larry Lawrence – Present
Kris Tobbe – Present

Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by CJ Teahan, to excuse MJ Takagi from today's meeting. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Also present was Lauri French and Matt Modrack from City Staff.

2. **Approval of the December 12, 2011 Agenda**

Lauri French noted that the August 8, 2011 meeting minutes could not be approved since there were not enough people at today's meeting who also attended the August meeting. She suggested this agenda item be carried forward to the January meeting and that the item be deleted from today's agenda.

Moved by Larry Lawrence, seconded by Kris Tobbe, to approve the December 12, 2011 agenda as amended. Motion carried 4-0-1.

3. **Approval of November 14, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to approve the November 14, 2011 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1.

4. **Approval of November 2011 Financial Reports**

Moved by CJ Teahan, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to approve the October 2011 financial report as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1.

5. **Call to the Public**

Call to the public was made at 4:05 p.m. Hearing no response, call to the public was closed.

New Business

6. **Discuss possible collaboration on an event with Brighton Art Guild**

Lauri French reported MJ Takagi contacted Betty MacLeod from the Brighton Art Guild (BAG) and Betty asked that we send an email invitation to one of our meetings so she can forward it to her Board for approval. There was discussion about what we might possibly want to collaborate on with the BAG. Lauri French suggested that the new Studio West Gallery might be a big enough space for the BAG to hold Kaleidoscope instead of the Green Oak Village Mall. Matt Modrack suggested we send a note to Rod Jones at Work Skills to solicit their interest in hosting the event, and then send a letter to the BAG about possibly moving it back to Brighton. Staff was directed to send these communications to Work Skills and the BAG.

Motion by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to direct staff to send an email to Betty MacLeod to invite her to the BACC meeting in January or February. Motion carried 4-0-1.

7. **Approve 2012 Meeting Dates**

Motion by CJ Teahan, seconded by Kris Tobbe, to approve the 2012 meeting dates as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1. The only date change is for November (originally scheduled for 11/12, which is a

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December 12, 2011

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City holiday, so it was changed to 11/19). CJ Teahan also noted she would probably not be at the March meeting due to travel plans.

Old Business

8. DIA "Inside Out" Update

Lauri French reported that she has not been able to get in touch with the DIA's representative about scheduling a visit to select the "Inside Out" sites. She called Michelle Hauske and left a message but did not receive a return call. We need to understand what type of marketing the DIA does for their program so we can tie into it and cross-promote it with the sculpture exhibit next year. Lauri will call Larry Baranski, DIA Director of Programs, to find out if the lack of funding from the City of Detroit and/or the State is a problem for the "Inside Out" program, and she will report back at the January meeting.

9. Status of replacement for future vacancy on the BACC

CJ Teahan reported that her neighbor, Jeanne Kelly, is now working and will not be able to serve on the BACC. Staff was directed to have the City publish a notice in the Press & Argus to solicit interest in filling the vacancy when Larry Lawrence resigns.

Other Business

10. Staff Updates - None

- Sculpture repair status – Lauri French reported that staff has contacted Adnan Charara (Bring Your Chalk and Draw On Me) and Kegham Tazian (Collaborative Transformation) about picking up their sculptures for repair. Matt Modrack and Jim Rowell will remove Adnan's sculpture from its base and make arrangements to return it to him. Kegham Tazian will pick up his sculpture as soon as he can borrow his son's SUV to transport it.
- "Rusty the Octopus" status - Rob Todd won't be able to make repairs until after the first of the year. DPS has cleaned the debris out from around its tentacles. Claudia Roblee would still like to find a buyer for Rusty if possible between now and August since Rob is not inclined to extend its exhibit without further stipend payment.
- Matt Modrack handed out Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for Brighton Arts & Culture Council, Inc., the non-profit that we have been talking about for the past several months. The documents have been modeled after the PIX Arts Council in Lapeer. Matt noted that a non-profit status should make it easier to apply for grants from foundations. He will also send these documents to Doug Cameron, DDA Attorney, for review. He reviewed the documents and asked that the BACC members take them home, review them, jot down questions and bring them back for discussion at the next meeting. Claudia Roblee asked Lauri French to send the documents to MJ Takagi.

11. Call to the Public – Call to the Public was made at 4:58 p.m. Hearing no response, Call to the Public was closed.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Kris Tobbe, seconded by Larry Lawrence, to adjourn the meeting at 4:58 p.m. The motion carried 4-0-1.

Lauri French, Administrative Assistant
Community Development Department
December 13, 2011

Reminders: Next Regular BACC Meeting – Monday, January 9, 2012 – 4:00 p.m. – Council Chambers

BACC/DDA Millpond Design Committee Meeting – January 2012 (date TBD) – 4:00 p.m.