

Meeting of the Main Street Design Committee  
Monday, January 31, 2011 – City Hall, Portland, MI

Present: Eric Frederick, Patrick Reagan, Tom Dempsey, Kathy Parsons

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Patrick passed out the two sign grant applications received.

Duff, Chadwick:

The sign company estimate and mockup was discussed. The sign will be on the front of the building in the marquis area. Plans are for the sign to be unlit at this time. The sign will be mounted with a bracket to facilitate more attractive removal if it is needed.

Consensus was that the sign was a classic retail-type marquis sign, professionally done with the letters raised for effect. Even though it is not externally lit, there is sufficient street lighting on the corner for visibility.

Eric moved to recommend funding of the sign as proposed up to \$1,000. Tom supported. Motion carried. Patrick will contact the owner to let him know the committee's recommendation and inform him of the next steps.

Duke's:

Duke's introduced two signs in his proposal. One is a dimensional sign made of backlit plastic lettering, proposed to be lit from behind so the letters are lit in shadow at night.

More concrete details were discussed by phone with the owner of Duke's to his intentions on the appearance and makeup of the sign. The consensus of the committee is that the visual design of the sign is desired, but the materials and backlighting do not meet the goals of the program. The owner is open to a wooden sign with gooseneck lighting. Tom moved to recontact the applicant to work with him on recommending a wooden sign with gooseneck lighting, and to hold the spot open for 30 days for the owner to redesign and resubmit his proposal.

Patrick will contact the owner of Duke's to convey the committee's recommendations.

Workplan items:

Tweaks were made to wording on minor items of the plan.

Downtown parking issues:

Patrick has received and addressed a couple of parking complaints from business and building owners. One business owner asked for a 2-hour parking area on Maple Street's 100 block.

Quarterly Training, March 30<sup>th</sup> in Wayland. National Main Street in May.

Next meeting, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

Eric moved to adjourn, Tom supported. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:34 pm.