

Minutes of the Meeting of the Portland Main Street Design Committee
Thursday, July 14, 2011 – Two Rivers Park, Portland, MI

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

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Discussion was had about the desired time line for the Facade & Sign Grant Application process. Consensus was that the time frame of design services and applications over the winter for an early construction season worked best. Patrick will start the process with the MMC and begin talking to building/business owners who have already expressed interest and set up design seminar if needed.

Tom mentioned that it had been brought to his attention that the roses in the City Hall planters were overgrown and had stopped blooming. Kathy mentioned that they were badly in need of dead-heading to make them re-bloom. She reported they would most likely require drastic pruning down to their base stems at the end of growing season to maintain and improve their health, as they had not been pruned in quite some time. She volunteered to take on the maintenance of the bushes to encourage them to re-bloom, and at the end of the growing season will prune them back as needed to improve their health for next year.

Patrick said that there was interest from business owners in seeing additional Christmas season decorations along the boardwalk and perhaps the Bridge Street Bridge walkway, as well as the Christmas trees downtown. Patrick was in touch with our DDA Christmas decoration vendor about adding to the order. They indicated they thought July was too late in the season to order new decorations. Members felt it was worth looking into other vendors who might be want to work with the DDA for more decorations. Patrick will contact other vendors and see what they have to offer, and will seek quotes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Next meeting, Thursday, August 11, 2011 @ City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Parsons, Chair
Design Committee.