

August 3, 2023  
Downtown Development Authority  
Village of Bellevue - Meeting Minutes

The Bellevue Downtown Development Authority meeting was called to order at 1:59 p.m. by Chairperson Carpenter.

Roll Call:

Present: C. Carpenter, K. Sparks, N. Roberts, S. Denton, M. Pennington

Absent: H. McMillon, K. Travis, M. Bartzzen

N. Roberts moved to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2023 meeting, seconded by K. Sparks. Motion Carried.

M. Bartzzen took her seat at 2:01p.m.

The board had a short discussion on the Farmer's Market and how there was a lot of talk throughout town regarding the price and small activity. The board agreed to look into reducing the price and possibly move to a different day. This topic will be placed in the holding area to review for next year.

The Facade Grant Program was reviewed. We currently have no applications, just a few questions. The deadline for the grant application is August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Courtney Mead joined the board for this meeting. Courtney is the executive director for the Chamber of Commerce for Olivet, Charlotte, and Eaton Rapids. Courtney's purpose in joining was to meet the board and discuss ways to stay in contact with each other. Her vision is to have the surrounding communities work together and lean on each other to help all businesses thrive.

Halloween & Pet's in the Park will occur on October 28, 2023. It is noted that the board's goal is to get more businesses to sign up for games. Some ideas are to make a sign-up sheet to help with keeping track of businesses who sign up and follow up with them closer to the event time. We also need more boots on the ground to spread the word about this event.

The Christmas Parade & Santa Night will occur on December 2, 2023. The board has similar thoughts regarding the Christmas Parade. We need more boots on the ground and to start by asking people to participate sooner. C. Carpenter will make a sign-up flyer to give information about all the upcoming fall and winter events to help spread the word and keep track of interested participants.

We will continue the Christmas decoration contest this year. The board confirmed the timeline of this event, and it is as follows. All applications are due by November 24, 2023. Voting will kick off at Santa Night on December 2, 2023. Voting will end on December 17, 2023 @ 5 pm. Voting will occur via online submission, email submitting the ballot, or dropping off a ballot at the village hall. The winners will be announced the week of December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Note: Board members need to start collecting items for the residential winner goodie bag.

The board still has one vacant seat left. K. Sparks will ask Trevor, the owner of Bellevue's newest business, Countryside Armory, to see if he has any interest.

M. Pennington moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m., seconded by K. Sparks. Motion Carried.