

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF July 8th, 2026**

A. ROLL CALL

Members present: Dale Feigley, Andy West, Taylor DeHaan, Jennifer Frederick, Cassie Blascyk, Supervisor Hamill, Chris Hamill, Christina Welsh, Daniel Walker, and Roscoe Smith

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Melissa Dashevich, Executive Director

Guests: Dani Dexter

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM

B. APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF June 10th, 2026

MS. FREDERICK MOVED TO APPROVE the regular HDDA board meeting minutes of June 10th, 2026. **MR. WEST SUPPORTED THE MOTION**, and the **MOTION CARRIED** with a unanimous voice vote: Andy West - yes; Taylor DeHaan - yes; Dale Feigley - yes; Cassie Blascyk- yes; Jennifer Frederick - yes; Daniel Walker - yes; Chris Hamill - yes; Christina Welsh - yes; Supervisor Hamill - yes; Roscoe Smith - yes. (10 yes votes).

C. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Dashevich provided her report in advance.

D. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Hamill presented her financial report through June 1st, 2026 in detail. We have a total revenue YTD of \$236,992. HDDA has spent just under \$109,770 on programs. Currently revenue exceeds expenses by just over \$127,222. HDDA is currently on target with their budget for 2026. Current cash on hand is \$662,686.

MS. DEHAAN MOVED TO ACCEPT the Treasurer's Report. **MR. WEST SUPPORTED THE MOTION**, and the **MOTION CARRIED** with a unanimous voice vote: Andy West - yes; Taylor DeHaan - yes; Dale Feigley - yes; Cassie Blascyk- yes; Jennifer Frederick -

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF July 8th, 2026**

yes; Daniel Walker - yes; Chris Hamill - yes; Christina Welsh - yes; Supervisor Hamill - yes; Roscoe Smith - yes. (10 yes votes).

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Committee members are currently reviewing their respective Work Plans for 2027. Final proposed budgets will be presented at August DDA Board meeting for approvals.*

Ms. Frederick presented some potential changes to the budget in 2027 under Organization, Promotions, and Economic Vitality for feedback. Mrs. Blascyk informed the board that the design committee is working on getting contracts for the 2027 season. She would also like to include some new maintenance budget line items and to look further into participating in the America in Bloom program.

2. Main Street Momentum Grant information

Mrs. Dashevich went over the details of the grant Highland was awarded by MSOC. The board has 2 years to use it on a project that falls under one of the 3 possible categories allowed. Mrs. Blascyk is planning to get a group together to tour other communities to get ideas on potential uses for the money.

3. Marketing for Festival/Events

Mrs. Dashevich asked feedback from the board on whether the marketing may need to be adjusted to better highlight the HDDA's contributions to the community as many do not know what the DDA does. Feedback from the board was mixed, potential solutions were welcomed but some board members believe it is not necessary to make any changes.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. *Review MSOC/MSA Final Report of Accreditation Review*

The board decided to allow the committees to go over the reports individually.

G. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. West reported that the HWLBA will be holding an open house on October 15th from 4pm to 7pm, details to come.

At the next Highland Talk of the Town on July 22nd Mrs. Dashevich will be speaking about the HDDA.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF July 8th, 2026**

Ms. Frederick requested that upcoming events be listed on the board meeting packet.

Mr. Feigley asked if the grant could be used for a public art project.

Mrs. Hamill went over the details of the Match on Main program through Michigan Economic Development Corp. This is a reimbursement program up to \$25,000. The business must ask the DDA to submit an application. The board discussed ways to inform businesses of the opportunity.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Design

1. Wayfinding Sign Repair Update

Mrs. Blascyk updated those who were not present for the June 25th meeting that Mr. Eichinger provided her with a quote to replace the sign along with adding extra support to those that may need it. At the meeting on the 25th the board approved the expense of \$3,143 to upgrade the supports for 5 of the way finding signs as well as replace the broken sign along Milford Road.

2. New Grant announcement

Mrs. Blascyk shared the news that the HDDA has officially been awarded the SEMCOG planning assistance grant for \$35,000 to create sidewalk installation blueprints, engineering study and any other necessary planning for the installation of sidewalks from the Highland Station Board Walk to Milford Highschool. This will run on the 2027 fiscal year budget.

Mrs. Welsh excused herself from the meeting at this point.

Economic

3. Tranquil Expressions has been granted the second rental subsidy

Mrs. Dashevich made the announcement.

4. Sidewalk Sales July 17th and 18th

In addition to the sidewalk sales announcement Mrs. Dashevich informed the board that the farmers market is opening this upcoming Saturday.

Organization

Nothing to report.

Promotions

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF July 8th, 2026**

5. Red White and Blues Recap

The feedback from the public was very positive, however reviews of The Blues Brothers were mixed. Mrs. Blascyk expressed her appreciation for the committee who made it happen.

This event and the other DDA events have grown to the point that changes will need to be made in the future to support the amount of people that attend. Board members resolved to work on more specific volunteer sign ups and shifts as well as an emergency preparedness plan.

I. MSOC

Nothing to report

J. DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

A new business has moved into the previous location of Home Again, Devina Design Co. They customize and restore furniture. The furniture staging company that was renting the space has moved to the previous Gilroy's location. Magnolia Services cleaning company has moved into the garage area on the southeast corner of Livingston and Milford road.

K. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Guest Dani Dexter volunteered her expertise as a nurse to the HDDA to help run a First Aid tent at the concerts on Tuesdays and expressed that if a First Aid tent is provided for future events she can find staffing.

L. MEETING ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm. - TD