



**Downtown Development Authority
Meeting of the DDA Board of Directors**

April 29, 2026

The Tuesday April 29, 2026 meeting of the DDA Board of Directors was called to order at 8:30am in DDA Meeting Room A at City Hall, 215 W Main, Northville.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Brian Turnbull, Margene Buckhave, David Cole, Aaron Cozart, Mike Jaafar, Jim Long, Robert Miller, Shawn Riley, Brian Sherle

Absent: DJ Boyd, Ryan McKindles

Also Present: Kate Knight / DDA Director, Stacy Pearson / DDA Assistant Director, Barbara Moroski-Browne / Council Person, Fred Sheill

AUDIENCE COMMENT None

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Turnbull announces the Mayoral appointment for board member Brian Sherle, owner of Browndog Barlor. Sherle will be replacing Amy Bonser.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Turnbull, **seconded** by Buckhave to approve the agenda and consent agenda. **Motion carried** unanimously.

ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION WITH BEN GRIFFIN

Ben Griffin, Wayne County Assessor, gave a presentation and explanation on how DDA taxable value is assessed, how property tax values are derived, and more. Discussion to follow.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Knight discussed Main Street improvement updates, noting that work began on April 13, 2026. Additional updates included Re-Tree location of a current mature tree from it's current Tuscan Café location to the raised bed where the dying tree was removed in Town Square. Knight relayed interviews have begun with multiple merchants as a promotional campaign downtown to encourage positive messaging and invitations to downtown, that DDA staff attendance to the Main Street Now national conference, and that the national Planning conference mobile tour would be in Northville within the month. In conclusion Knight relayed to the board that on April 28th there is a court hearing for our Motion to Stay,

filed for clarification in response to a letter received by Plaintiff Let's Open Northville, regarding concern for several points, including our approved special event plans for Summer in the 'Ville on Main Street.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ARBORIST AGREEMENT WITH RETREE

Knight presented the arborist agreement with Re-Tree for the relocation of a live mature tree into an empty tree bed in Town Square. **Motion by Turnbull, seconded by Long** to authorize DDA Director to execute proposed agreement with Re-Tree, LLC for \$7,211.00. **Motion carried** unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SWCA ENVIRONMENTAL

Knight presented the professional services agreement with SWCA Environmental for contractual Services for Cady Connection TAP Grant SHPO Section 106 Review with SWCA Environmental Consultants. Discussion followed. **Motion by Cole, seconded by Cozart** to authorize DDA Director to execute proposed agreement with SWCA Environmental Consultants for \$9,500. **Motion carried** unanimously.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Design – Miller: Main Street moving smoothly, looking at winter construction for fountain based on desire to keep summer programming uninterrupted, and the bandshell design and funding discussion will be addressed shortly.

Marketing – Knight: Brian Sherle will be join Marketing and will be a liaison between NCBA and DDA. Sherle gave NCBA Derby Day overview 5-8:30pm Thursday May 7, 2026. No street closures. Buckhaves will host ending event at Old Church Square.

Parking Committee – None

Organizational Committee – None

EDC – Cole: Overview of EDC meeting previous week to include details of Tech Town from Detroit Zoom call (a resource to Wayne County and potentially Northville for Economic growth and development). Services and options were discussed for businesses and city overall. EDC will present options to DDA in the future. Knight followed up with support for the tactical technical support within budget – zero cost.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Riley called for board members to attend 2027 State of Community Event with the Mayor to show video at next DDA May Meeting. Pearson shared that seasonal staff is onboarding in May, and that the DIA Inside Out program will be installed within the next month or two. Knight relayed that bicentennial materials and steering meetings are forthcoming.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lahanas shared that the River Park Opening will be at 11:00am June 17, 2026, and that City Hall has a new hire of full time Deputy Chief position. Long requested an update on the First-Floor ordinance update requested, to which Knight followed up by noting that a stakeholder meeting will be forthcoming and lend to future conversation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Turnbull and seconded by Miller to adjourn the DDA Board meeting. **Motion carried** unanimously. **Meeting adjourned at 9:56am.**

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Pearson, Assistant DDA Director
Northville DDA

