

**City of Ithaca
Downtown Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2026**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca Downtown Development Authority was called to order at 10:51 am by Chair Janet Strong.

Members Present: Kevin Collison, Kim Hodge, Joe Padilla, Janet Strong and Deb Vusich.

Members Absent: Marci Browne.

Staff Present: City Manager, Jamey Conn and DDA Coordinator, Shelly Moffit.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Collison, second by Padilla to approve the meeting agenda as presented; motion carried.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Padilla, second by Hodge to approve the Regular DDA Meeting minutes from March 10, 2026; motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business

New Business

- **Financial Reports.** The Board reviewed the DDA check register from 3/7/26 – 5/6/26, balance sheets and revenue/expense reports for the period ending 4/30/26. After review, motion by Collison, second by Padilla to approve the financial reports; motion carried.
- **Proposed 2026-2027 DDA Budget.** The proposed 2026-2027 DDA Budget was presented to the Board. After review, motion by Hodge, second by Collison to approve the 2026-2027 Budget as presented; motion carried.
- **Farmers Market Opening.** It has been a successful start to the season. We have received \$4,050 in sponsorships to help fund this year's market. The sponsorship banner, featuring all of our sponsors' logos, has been installed at the pavilion in recognition of their contributions.
- **Update on Businesses.** Pay It Forward Outlet is now open downtown. Susan Simcox is working on opening an antique store in Bob Milks building. Joe reported that a photographer will be opening at the Village Shoppes. Novel Thoughts Books and Vintage Wares will be opening July 1st.

Staff Updates

DDA Coordinator Moffit's DDA Report highlighted promoting businesses through the Downtown Newsletter. Jo Baracy of Sage & Barrel is rebranding her boutique to Boots, Denim & Bows and moving back to the storefront across from the Hearthstone Oven. The owners of Novel Thoughts Books and Vintage Wares moved into their space and will be opening on July 1st. Welcomed owner of Pay It Forward Outlet to downtown and attended a Ribbon Cutting on May 1st.

Will be attending a meeting with Greater Gratiot Development and MEDC for types of funding that may be available for our businesses. Helped facilitate the Person of the Year process and attended the GACC Annual Community Celebration to honor Kim Hodge. Will be meeting with Leslie Siefka and the FFA Crop Science class to take pictures and the downtown flowers that will be downtown next week.

City Manager Conn reported that the owner of The Keg purchased the vacant building next door and they are looking into the possibility of putting a gas station there. Dr. Noah Horvat purchased property next to Ithaca Physical Therapy and is planning to build a new dentist's office.

Roundtable Discussion

Kim reported that the Rotary will be selling hotdogs downtown for the Dustoff Car Show and representatives from the Relay for Life will also be having fundraising bake sale. Joe shared that April will also be at the car show selling popcorn and dirty sodas.

Public Comments

No public comment.

Adjournment

Being no further business, motion by Collison , second by Hodge to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am; motion carried.

The next Regular DDA and Informational Meeting will be scheduled for August 11, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

Marci Browne, Secretary/Treasurer

Shelly Moffit, Recording Secretary