

## MINUTES

Cascade Charter Township  
Downtown Development Authority  
June 2, 2026, at 8:00am  
Cascade Library Wisner Center  
2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE

- ARTICLE 1.** Chair Kleyla called the meeting to order at 8:02am.  
Members Present: Vogel, Carlson, Preston, Stephan, Kleyla, Bingham, Lesperance, Makkar  
Others Present: Township Manager Jade Smith, DDA Manager Ryan Sennett, Executive Assistant Jessica Stine, Parks & Recreation Director Dan Zwick, Finance & Budget Director Lorna Nenciarini.
- ARTICLE 2. Approval of the Agenda**  
**Motion was made by Member Vogel to approve the agenda. Supported by Member Carlson. Motion carried 8 to 0.**
- ARTICLE 3. Approval of the Minutes of the March 24, 2025 Meeting**  
**Motion was made by Member Carlson to approve the minutes as written. Supported by Member Stephan. Motion carried 8 to 0.**
- ARTICLE 4. KCSD Community Connect Program**  
Kent County Sheriff's Office presented on their Community Connect program that uses drones and cameras to enhance public safety. They demoed the use of their drone and body cams. Members requested the Sheriff's Department make a similar presentation to local business leaders. Staff will work to coordinate this presentation. Staff will also work on creating an application process for potential funding to support sponsorship of this program for local businesses.
- ARTICLE 5. Consider Metro Cruise 2026 Sponsorship Proposal**  
Brandon Simmons presented the sponsorship proposal for the 2026 Metro Cruise, to be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, to the Board. He is reaching out to local businesses to look for additional sponsorship and is inviting all DDA businesses to hold free tables or booths at the event, in the five to eight available spaces. This will help to better integrate DDA businesses into the event. They requested \$12,500 in funding from the DDA, with anticipated costs for the warm-up event and pitstops totaling over \$17,000. This is a smaller request than the \$14,000 requested in 2025.  
**Motion was made by Member Carlson to grant the funding request for the 2026 Metro Cruise in the amount of \$12,500. Supported by Member Vogel. Motion carried 8 to 0.**

Supervisor Lesperance left at 9:00am.

**ARTICLE 6. Appointment of Bond Financial Advisor**

Finance & Budget Director Nenciarini presented the Board with information regarding the appointment of a Bond Financial Advisor to work with the Township to manage the bonding for Tassell Park and Village Improvements. This was already approved by the Township Board of Trustees and would have been presented to the DDA prior to the Board's approval, but there was not a quorum at the meeting when it was set to be presented.

**Motion was made by Member Stephan to recommend MFCI as the municipal financial advisor for the DDA bond to the Township Board of Trustees. Supported by Member Makkar. Motion carried 7 to 0.**

**ARTICLE 7. Staff Updates**

Parks & Recreation Director Zwick shared information on programming opportunities to the Board. He stated that the department is always looking for local businesses to set up tables or be vendors for Parks & Recreation events and invited them to reach out. He said they will be looking to increase local business participation and promote the DDA.

Manager Sennett discussed upcoming events, the DDA's new Facebook page, and flowerpot plantings. K-Potcha held their grand opening, Caribou Coffee closed, and iSmash received Planning Commission approval.

**ARTICLE 8. Any Other Business**

There was not any other business to discuss at that time.

**ARTICLE 9. Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment**

Patel, owner of the Red Roof Inn- Stated that they are having some success working with the Kent County Sheriff's Office to improve safety at their property and will be partnering with the FUSCUS program and giving access to the Kent County Sheriff's Office as soon as it is available. Their new landscaping is complete.

**ARTICLE 10. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Member Makkar to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Member Vogel. Motion carried 6 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Vogel, Secretary