

Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority 2016 Planning Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2016

Mission Statement: The mission of the Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority is to maintain and improve the community through the retention and growth of business, industry and services.

Board Members Present: Joann Schmidt, Mike Carr, Kathy Haala, Gary Windschitl, Dan Schmid, Nate Stevermer and Mike Schmid

Advisory Board Members Present: Mark Kober, Kurk Kramer and Trista Barka

Absent: None

- A. **Call to Order- Approval of Agenda:** The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Haala at 4:05pm on January 26, 2016. Agenda was approved.
- B. **Election of Officers:** Dan moved and Gary second to have the 2016 officers be the same as the 2015 officers. Motion passed. The 2016 President is Kathy Haala, 2016 Vice President is Mike Carr and 2016 Secretary/Treasurer is Gary Windschitl.
- C. **Approval of Minutes:** Joann moved and Gary second to approve the December Board meeting minutes. Motion passed.
- D. **Financial Report:** Kurk handed out updated financial reports from the meeting packet.
 - a. **RLF Report:** No changes, approved.
 - b. **DRIP Report:** Big Splash Car Wash will be added to the DRIP report.
 - c. **Active EDA Resources Report:** No changes, approved.
- E. **Approval of Bills:** Kurk mentioned SMIF reached out with their annual request. This will be tabled to a future meeting to see what happens with Tri-Valley and the potential day care center and if SMIF would be a potential financial supporter of that.
- F. **EDA Coordinator's Report:** Kurk highlighted things are being worked on with the Orchid Inn and mentioned Shane is aware he needs to repay his EDA loan.
- G. **Chamber Director Report** Trista mentioned Annual Meeting, Business to Business Lucheon and the Young Professional event coming up in February.
- H. **Old Business:** Discussed under New Business for the 2016 Planning Session
- I. **New Business:** Set goals for 2016
- J. **Prior to Considering 2016 Goals- Review Goals from 2010-2015:** The Board reviewed the handout and noticed most goals have been achieved and completed.
- K. **Work Plan 2016 and Beyond – Prioritize Discussion Topics Below for Goal Setting**
 1. **Business Retention & Expansion Survey Results:** Overall the main concern is work force.
 2. **Maxfield Research Housing Study Results:** Overall the main concern is work force housing.
 3. **Continue Efforts to Pursue Early Childcare Facility:** This is still a focus and will continue to work through this with the potential facility Tri-Valley is considering.
 4. **Downtown Programs**
 - a. **Sign and Awning Guidelines:** Mike S moved and Joann second the motion to place a moratorium on the sign and awning program until a committee consisting of Mark, Kurk, Joann and Gary can reevaluate the program now that it has been in place for some time. Motion passed.
 - b. **Downtown Buildings Sitting Empty and Deteriorating:** There was a lot of discussion and people shared their frustrations, but the Board is unsure of how to enforce building owners to take pride in their buildings. It was suggested to have codes more strictly enforced on any violations there may be.
 5. **Snow Property**
 - a. **Continue to Pursue Businesses/Residences on Snow Additions:** This is still a focus and will continue to work through any opportunities.
 6. **Event Center & Hotel:** This is still a focus and will continue to work through any opportunities.
 7. **Sleepy Eye Marketing/Branding Efforts:** This is still a focus and will continue to work through any opportunities.
 8. **Minnesota Green-Step Cities Program:** While a valuable program it was tabled for a future time.
 9. **Community Garden:** While a valuable program it was tabled for a future time.
 10. **Other**

L. Goals for 2016

1. Collaborate with HRA Board to discuss options for housing developments and programs for workforce housing
2. Continue Efforts to Pursue Early Childcare Facility
3. Continue to Promote Rehab of Downtown Buildings
4. East Side Development (Snow Property) and Event Center

Other Business: None

Adjourned: Vice President Mike Carr adjourned the 2016 Planning Meeting at 6:00pm on Tuesday, January 26, 2016.

Next EDA Board Meeting meeting will be **Tuesday, February 23, 2016** at the Railway at Noon.

EDA President Kathy Haala

EDA Sec/Treas. Gary Windschitl