

Sleepy Eye EDA Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2021 @ Noon at The Sleepy Eye Golf Course

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: Gary Windschitl, Mike Carr, Joann Schmidt, Casey Couslon, Kathy Haala

Advisory Board Members Present: Kurk Kramer, Christina Andres, Bob Elston, Wayne Pelzel

Absent Members: Mark Kober, Joe Scheiffert

- A. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Haala at 12:04pm on February 23, 2021.
- B. **Approval of Agenda:** M/S/C Mike, Joann
- C. **Approval of January Minutes:** M/S/C Joann, Casey
- D. **Accept Financial Reports:** M/S/C Gary, Mike
 1. **RLF Report:** As Written
 2. **Business Rehab Program:** As Written
 3. **All Active EDA Resources:** As Written
 4. **2021 EDA Disbursements YTD:** As Written
- E. **Approval of Bills:** None
- F. **Reports**
 1. **EDA Coordinator's Report:** As Written
 2. **Chamber Director Report:** No February Meeting
 3. **St. Peter Business Services -** As Written
- G. **Old Business**
 1. **Chasing Our Tails Update:** Kurk informed the Board that things are still progressing with Chasing Our Tails but have slowed and again the timeline has been bumped out.
 2. **Del Monte ponds update:** Kurk met again will all interested parties and things continue to move forward in a positive light.
 3. **EDA/HRA Housing Discussion-Alliance Building Corp. Update:** Kurk, the Mayor and Bob are meeting with the group again to discuss the Options they presented and also discuss the SNOW First Addition location south of Casey's.
 4. **Incubator Space Information Update & Discussion** – Kurk talked about finalizing the application for the spaces and then looking at a timeline when to make them available online. The Board also discussed doing a thorough walk through of the Community Center space and reviewing basic operation issues for using it as a split space (Offices and Community Center).
 5. **Orchid Inn/DEED Revelopment Grant Requirements** – Kurk again had various conversations with mulitple persons possibly interested in the Orchid Inn site but all cited that the building would need to be removed before any serious offers would be discussed.
 6. **Blight and Downtown Business District Rehab/Empy Building Discussion:** The DRC continues plans for the downtown buildings. Its hopefully that The Berg will soon have new/updated windows and Kurk would also like to schedule a walk through of the former City Hall buidling as the weather warms. Other Board members agreed to join for a closer inspection of the property.
 7. **Mitchell, SD Cemetary Property:** Kurk did some calling and still no interest in the property. He will continue efforts with the area churches but at some point the Board will need to make a decision for their future ownership.

H. New Business

1. **Discuss Letter from SEBC to EDA Board:**– Kurk reported that our City Attorney recommended that the EDA Board does not change it from a loan to a grant. It comes with the risk to the EDA of financial loss if the owner should default on the payment; the EDA would be left with no leverage to recoup the funds.
2. **Restructuring of EDA Program Criteria and Guidelines** – The EDA Board approves dividing the remaining budgeted balance of \$60,000.00 for the Business Rehab Program into three optional loans of up to \$20,000.00 each for 2021. This leaves approximately \$2000.00 which could be used for other EDA related applications. **M/S/C Joann, Mike**
3. **EDA 5-Yr Capital Plan & Budget Information** – hold off until the April Planning Meeting
4. **EDA Online Advertising** – Out State & Nationwide – hold off until next meeting
5. **Friendz Salon SCDP Loan Reveiw** - The EDA Board recommends approval to the Sleepy Eye City Council in regards to the Small Cities Development Program (Commercial Rehabilitation Program) the request by Friendz Salon to pay off the remaining loan balance early and that the grant balance portion be immediatly forgiven upon loan payoff. **M/S/C Casey, Joann**

Adjourned: Kathy Haala @ 1:08pm

Next EDA Board Meeting meeting will be **Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021** @ Noon – SEGC