

Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2022

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: Casey Coulson, Joann Schmidt, Kathy Haala, Gary Windschitl, Mark Kober

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

Also Present: City Attorney Alissa Fischer Groen

Absent: Toby Arneson, Mike Carr, Christina Andres

A. Call to Order- Approval of Agenda:

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Haala at 12:03pm on October 25, 2022.

The agenda was approved with two additions. **M/M/S to approve: Gary W. and Mark K.**

B. Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the September meeting minutes.

M/M/S to approve: Gary W. and Casey C.

C. Financial Report:

Kurk provided the October Financial Reports. The RLF, Business Assistance/Rehab Fund, EDA Programs 2014-YTD, and the 2022 EDA Program Disbursements.

M/M/S to approve: Mark K. and Joann S.

D. Bills: No bills were presented at the October meeting.

E. EDA Coordinator Report: As Written

F. Chamber Director Report: As Written

G. Old Business:

1. **Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery:** City Attorney Alissa Groen attended the meeting to discuss possible scenarios for the Board to consider in establishing a perpetual care fund for the cemetery which could possibly improve interest in the sale of the property. She will explore some insurance and other related information concerning selling and get the information to Kurk to share with the Board at the next meeting.
2. **Orchid Inn:** Since the interest in purchasing the former Orchid Inn property from previous parties is no longer there, Kurk will begin the process of applying for a DEED Grant for the demolition and redevelopment of the property. He will also have conversations with some of the local businesses to see if they would be part of the application process and plan.

H. New Business:

1. **EDA Application:** Recommendation from the EDA Finance Committee to approve the EDA Business Assistance Application Form from Ron Berdan for Berdan Plumbing for the rehab work of the building's new roof. **M/M/S to approve: Mark K. and Joann S.**
2. **Discussion on EDA Annual Budget Numbers:** Bob Elston explained to the Board the process for setting, distributing, interest accrual, and reimbursement of funds used for the EDA programs in and out of the General Fund each year.
3. Kurk mentioned that the Sleepy Eye Arena will be approaching the EDA to apply for assistance for their next arena improvement project beginning in 2023.
4. There was a brief discussion on Little Sprouts Learning Center current status and operations.

5. The EDA Board requested information for the November meeting to discuss housing and working with the local HRA Board to consider a possible project for addressing the housing situation here. They also wanted an update on the status and timing of the EDA Note with the owners of the former City Hall building which was purchased from the EDA earlier in 2022.

I. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by President Kathy Haala at 12:53pm

Next Board meeting is **Tuesday, November 22, 2022** at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

EDA President Kathy Haala

EDA Sec/Treas. Gary Windschitl