

Sleepy Eye EDA November Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2022 @ 4:00pm – Event Center

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, Kathy Haala, Joann Schmidt, Casey Coulson, Toby Arneson, Mark Kober, Mike Carr

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

Absent Members: None

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Haala at 4:08PM.

B. Approval of Agenda **M/S/C Casey, Gary**

C. Election of Officers for 2023: **M/S/C Casey, Mark**

1. Chairman: Kathy Haala
2. Vice-Chair: Mike Carr
3. Secretary/Treasurer: Gary Windschitl

D. Approval of November Minutes: As Written **M/S/C Casey, Toby**

E. Accept Financial Report **M/S/C Mark, Joann**

1. **RLF Report:** As Written
2. **Business Assistance Fund:** As Written
3. **All Active EDA Resources:** As Written
4. **2023 EDA Program Disbursements:** As Written

F. Approval of Bills: None

G. Reports

1. **EDA Coordinator's Report:** As Written
2. **Chamber Director Report:** As Written

H. Old Business

1. **LSLC update** – The Little Sprouts Learning Center Board and their President Cody Groen, discussed the present child care numbers and their outlook on the future projections for LSLC. They presently have thirty four children in the facility with plans to expand to a larger building and the potential to provide care for over eighty children in the future. Both Boards discussed the current status of their EDA Loan and the note becoming active. After a number of considerations the EDA Board made a motion to suspend the loan payments until the February 2023 Meeting, and then reconsider what the repayment will look like. **M/S/C Mark, Mike**
2. **Timeline on Sale and Activity of 108 Main Street West Property** – Check with Owner on the Status and Plans Moving Forward – Possibility of Re-Sale of Property?
3. **Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery** – Kurk presented the Board with the latest status on the property. No change
4. **Former China 14 Buildings** – Wayne offered to contact the owners to discuss possible sale of the building.
5. **Former Shane's Tire Property** – The Board considered contacting the County Commissioners to push for the sale of the property ASAP.
6. **Former Orchid Inn Property** – Kurk shared with the Board that the grant application he submitted to the MPCA for The Brownfield Assessment was approved. MPCA was not sure of

total funding amount at this time, but will contact when they have the numbers available and can start the work.

7. **Huey Area Final Landscaping Work** – Michael Springer will begin work in the spring as soon as the weather permits.
8. **EDA/HRA Proposed Meeting** – The two Boards will be meeting this coming week to begin discussion on addressing housing needs and concerns in Sleepy Eye.

I. New Business

1. Topics of Discussion for 2023 Planning Session:

- A) Two bids from Sid's Signs for lettering on wall on corner of Hwys 4 & 14 – tabled
- B) Re-evaluate EDA Business Assistance Application Format/Guidelines/Financial #'s - tabled
- C) Set Goals for 2023 - **M/S/C Mark, Casey**
 - aa) Develop Current Childcare Resolution
 - bb) Demolition And Redevelopment Of Former Orchid Inn Property
 - cc) Continued Downtown Revitalization Efforts
 - dd) Address Community Housing Needs – Cooperative Efforts Between EDA & HRA
 - ee) Bring A Restaurant To Town

Adjourned: Kathy Haala @ 5:40PM

The next EDA Board Meeting will be **Tuesday, February 28, 2023** @ Noon in the Council Chambers.