

Sleepy Eye EDA Board July Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2023 @ Noon

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

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

Absent Members: Christina Andres

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Kathy Haala, at 12:01PM.

B. Approval of Agenda: M/S/C – Joann, Toby

C. Approval of June 2023, EDA Board Meeting Minutes:
M/S/C – Joann, Mark

D. Financial Reports Approved as Printed: M/S/C –Mike, Gary

E. EDA Coordinator & Chamber Director Reports: Both reports were included in the meeting packet.

F. Old Business:

1. The Board approved the resolution to sell the cemetery property in Mitchell, SD.
M/S/C –Mark, Mike

Kurk also updated the Board on the signed purchase agreement, title company work, and closing date to be within the coming week.

2. There was nothing new to report on the joint effort with the HRA and EDA regarding addressing the housing needs in Sleepy Eye.
3. There was discussion on the 205 Linden property and whether the EDA was interested in purchasing the property. The Board felt it didn't really meet the criteria that the Board wanted it to have, and that would be to rehab a blighted property. The Board had no interest in purchasing this property.
4. The Board spent time again discussing the empty, vacant, and inactive buildings on Main Street. The EDA is currently looking at two buildings and has been in conversation with the current owners to purchase them. There are several things happening currently in these efforts and there will possibly be some new information on them coming in the next week or two, so it was tabled to the August meeting. They specifically discussed the former China 14 building and its continued deterioration, so the Fire Chief is going to be contacted to see what kind of action could be taken due to the building being a potential hazard.

G. New Business:

1. The Board approved the application for the EDA Sign & Awning Program from “The Mane Bandit Salon”, Tawnee Huiras. They awarded \$737.00 to be used for the signage on the 237 W. Main St. building owned by Matt Mages.

M/S/C –Mark, Joann

There was discussion by Board members that the existing Sign and Awning Program be examined at the January 2024 EDA Planning Meeting.

2. The Board received a written update on Little Sprouts Learning Center from the LSLC Board Chairman, Cody Groen. No action was taken as there was no request for assistance in the update.

H. Adjourn: Chairman, Kathy Haala, adjourned the meeting at 12:41PM.

The August EDA Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at Noon.

EDA Chairman, Kathy Haala

EDA Secretary/Treasurer, Gary Windschitl