

Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority Board Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2017

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, Kathy Haala and Dan Schmid

Advisory Board Members Present: Kurk Kramer and Mark Kober

Absent: Nate Stevermer and Christina Andres

Guest Attendants: Brad DeVos, Wayne Pelzel, Misty Riebel, and Mark Bieto

I) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Kathy Haala, at 12:03PM on December 19, 2017. The agenda was approved as written, with the exception that Brad D. would be moved to the beginning of the agenda for his presentation.

Presentation by Brad DeVos: Brad is an employee of Schwartz Farms. He has offered his services as a consultant on behalf of Schwartz Farms and their dedication and involvement in community service. He has experience in setting up a non-profit to run the early childcare center, since he was on the Board in St. Peter when they had the same situation as we have here in Sleepy Eye. Brad addressed the Board and shared his expertise with them on the structure, challenges, and details in setting up a childcare facility. He gave specifics on the structure of the Board including size 7-9 members, and being made up of parents, business and community members. He discussed what the rates should be for each of the three groups of children, he thought the the current rates were a bit low and he suggested a three day rate, a four day rate, and a five day rate. Each additional day rate being slightly less costly than the fewer day rate. He also addressed not offering "drop-in care" due to the staffing/planning challenges that presents. Due to timing constraints in getting this established, he felt that the current Sleepy Eye Area Foundation Board could begin as the non-profit entity that this center would operate under, and then the Board could evolve after that to become the representatives that run the center from the aforementioned groups. He also strongly suggested that a local outside accounting firm be hired for doing the payroll and taxes. Misty R. was present as a parent representative and as one of the resource people in helping obtain licensure for the center. Mark B. Was present as SEAF Board Chairman. The SEAF Board will plan to meet on Thursday, December 21.

II) Approval of November and Special December 7 Meeting Minutes: M/M/S Mike S. and Mike C.

III) Financial Reports: M/M/S Mike C. and Dan S

- A. **RLF:** Accepted As Printed
- B. **DRIP:** Accepted As Printed
- C. **Active EDA Resources:** Accepted As Printed

IV) Approval of Bills: M/M/S Gary W. and Dan S.

- A. Annual EDAM Membership Dues: \$295.00
- B. Annual Greater Minnesota Parks & Trails Dues: \$150.00

V) Reports:

- A. **EDA Coordinator's Report:** Accepted As Printed
- B. **Chamber Director Report:** Accepted As Printed

VI) Old Business:

- A. **Finance Committee Recommendation Regarding Corner of 4 & 14 Property:** Tabled to January Meeting
- B. **Tri-Valley Child Care Center:** Addressed at the beginning of the meeting with Brad D.

VII) New Business:

- A. **Annual January Planning Meeting:** Kurk requested that the Board begin to do some "brainstorming" for the January Planning Meeting. The Board was asked to email ideas/topics to Kurk to put on the agenda for discussion. Some preliminary topics were the early childcare situation, the property on the corner of 4 & 14,

community housing needs, responses from the community survey prompted ideas on developing a 5 year plan to share with the entire community regarding the future of the downtown, and explore the feasibility of an EDA Levy for the purpose of downtown rehabilitation.

B. Ellia Bruggemann presentation: The Board was reminded to mark on their calendars the date of January 24, at 2:00PM for the presentation that Ellia will be giving to the City Council and the EDA Board on her proposal for the future use of the Orchid Inn facility. This meeting will take place at the Sleepy Eye Event Center.

VIII) Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:15PM by Chairman Kathy Haala

Next EDA Board Meeting (Annual Planning Meeting) will be **Tuesday, January 23rd** – 4:00PM @ Railway

EDA President Kathy Haala

EDA Sec/Treas. Gary Windschitl