

Sleepy Eye Economic Development Authority Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2018

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, Nate Stevermer, Mike Carr, Joann Schmidt, Kathy Haala, Mike Schmid, and Dan Schmid

Advisory Board Members Present: Mark Kober, Kurk Kramer, Christina Andres

Special Guest: Wayne Pelzel

Absent: None

- A. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Kathy Haala at 12:02pm on March 27, 2018.
- B. **Approval of March Minutes:** M/C/S Gary, Dan
- C. **Financial Report:**
 - 1) **RLF Report:** As Written
 - 2) **DRIP Report:** As Written
 - 3) **All Active EDA Resources Summary Report:** As Written
- D. **Approval of Bills:** None
- E. **EDA Coordinator's Report:** As Written; Joann asked for a clarification with the city website information. She wanted it to be stated that Lime Valley was working on multiple format/design options for the city website and would soon be ready to present those.
- F. **Chamber Director Report:** As Written; The Ron Drake agenda is pretty much set and all groups or individuals that were recommended be asked to attend meetings or lunches have been asked. Community Meeting is April 11th @ 7pm.
- G. **Old Business:**
 - 1) **Mayma's Delinquent Account** – Kurk reported that Alyssa has the requesting letter and she will take over communications dealing with this account.
 - 2) **Little Sprouts Learning Center** – Kurk shared the invoice received from Tri-Valley for deficit from 12/16/17-2/23/18 for the early childcare facility. The total cost caused some confusion, as this total did not seem to align with the projections we were given in December. The Board asked Kurk to get a breakdown of these vague numbers and request a face to face meeting with Tara from Tri-Valley for an explanation. The Board agreed not to submit payment until clarifications were made by Tri-Valley. Kurk also noted that we still haven't received information on where the \$30,000 grant money was used exactly. He would again inquire about this as well.
 - 3) **Update on Meeting with HRA Board** – Kurk and representatives of the EDA Board met with Randy Reinarts and Bob Schmid, from the Sleepy Eye HRA Board, and discussed the current housing situation. Kurk stated that we need to

decide what we are going to focus on. With the possibility of an additional of 30-60 more jobs coming to Sleepy Eye, we are going to have to house these individuals. The need for retirement housing with one level and low maintenance was mentioned specifically. The question was asked if the Meadowview Apartment owners (who had expressed interest in constructing another complex) had been made aware of the possible influx of renters. Kurk stated no, but that was definitely something that he could mention to them.

- 4) **Update on Ron Drake visit to Sleepy Eye** – Kurk handed out the tentative agenda for Ron’s three day visit here in Sleepy Eye. Christina informed the Board that email invites were sent out to the various persons and/or groups for the preselected times to meet with Ron. Also, visit notifications were emailed and letters sent to the downtown/Main Street businesses to be aware of possible visits by Ron & Kurk over those 3 days.

H. New Business:

- 1) **Hwy 4 & Hwy 14 Corner Property** - After a show of hands by the EDA Board, the consensus was that at this time we look to keep the space a green space; with the future possibility for it to create some type of direct revenue. Kurk handed out some examples of various pocket park ideas that would fit into that property space. The Board also discussed the idea of moving the Chief Sleepy Eye statue from Wooldrik Park to that location for more visibility. Some investigating as to any current stipulations on the statue or placement were to be done by Mark Kober and possible Alissa. Kurk was also going to revisit conversations with a few area landscapers for ideas on the site. They would report back next meeting. We also want to wait for opinions and insight from Ron Drake after his visit before deciding anything specific.
- 2) **Downtown Rehab Request** - After researching details for a Levy request for 2019 it was discovered that only \$20,000+ would be generated from such levy. So it was discussed and determined that the EDA Board would recommend requesting additional funding from the City Council in addition to the funds that are currently designated for the EDA and Downtown Rehab. This suggested fund request would be for an annual contribution of \$100,000 to be used specifically for downtown rehab and restoration. Further discussion, plans, and details by the EDA Board will take place before the request is formally presented to the City Council. The Council begins budget talks in July.

Adjourned: by EDA Chair Kathy at 12:59pm.

Next EDA Board Meeting will be Tuesday, April 24th – NOON @ Railway