

Sleepy Eye EDA Board Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2020

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 Couslon, Gary Windschitl, Mike Carr, Dan Schmid, Mark Kober, Joann Schmidt

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

Absent: Kathy Haala

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President Mike Carr at 12:05pm on May 26, 2020. Meeting was held at Event Center with physical distancing observed by the attendees, and total in attendance was 10 people.
- B. Approval of April Minutes: M/S/C Mark, Casey**
- C. Accept Financial Report M/S/C Joann, Mark**
 - 1. RLF Report:** As Written
 - 2. Business Rehab Program:** As Written
 - 3. Restarting Loan Repayment:** Previously requested pausing of EDA loan repayment will resume 2 months after the June 1st restart date; August 1st. **M/S/C Joann, Gary**
 - 4. All Active EDA Resources Report:** As Written
- D. Approval of Bills:** None
- E. Reports**
 - 1. EDA Coordinator's Report:** As Written; It was also requested that County Commissioner Dean Simonsen be invited to our next EDA meeting to discuss county held properties inside Sleepy Eye city limits and the plans for them.
 - 2. Chamber Director Report:** As Written
 - 3. LSLC Update from SPBS:** As Written; Joann informed the Board that they will be reaching out to Tri-Valley to inquire about rent/lease costs. LSLC is also looking into the idea of school-aged care and what that would entail.
- F. Old Business**
 - 1. Hwy 4 & 14 Pocket Park:** Kurk informed that landscaping block is being installed. Matt Mages submitted suggestions for murals or signage for the exposed brick and facade. The Board agreed that the simple & clean look of the walls, like that of Veterans Park, was what they desired compared to murals.
 - 2. Orchid Inn Asbestos & Property Inquiry:** Kurk was contacted by a few interested parties about the property. He shared the findings reports with the interested party and was open to discussion.
 - 3. Railway & City Limits Updates:** No updates from City Limits and no new purchase information from The Railway.
 - 4. Downtown Building Owners:** Kurk, Bob and the Mayor will be meeting again with a few of the owners of downtown properties to discuss ideas for the buildings.
- G. New Business**
 - 1. Discussion on 2020 Budget Numbers & New EDA Program Inquiries/Applications:** Kurk asked the Board their thoughts on additional loan requests for 2020, since most of that money has been accounted for already this year; on top of the unexpected COVID-19 loan assistance. Mark stated Kurk should look back into the records for Community Reinvestment Trust. It was a company the city had worked with regarding loans years ago. They may have some information that would be useful for funds.

2. **SE Brewing Coompany Sign/Awning Application request:** Kurk informed the Board that they had already apporved this request but that the figures were revamped because of faulty hardware which led to a falling signs.
3. **Quarterly Extended EDA Board Meetings:** The Board decided that based on the projected agenda, it will be determined if extended meetings need to happen and at whatever frequency is needed. June's meeting 6/23/2020 may have a guest, so it is scheduled as an extended meeting.
4. **Assisting with Outdoor Eating Options:** Kurk asked if there were things that we could do either as an EDA or the City to assist businesses with creating an outdoor option in regards to the Governors EO. Christina stated that she could reach out to the Stillwater Chamber to inquire as to what channels they went through to get MN Dot to approve bloacking off state roads for dining purposes. Bob and Wayne said that they would help in this as well, if calls to the governor and/or MN Dot were needed. Presently the only businesses that would have Main Street eating/drinking would be the SE Coffee & Brewing Companies; which would like to utilize bistro tables on the sidewalk of Main Street. The city would also look into options for those places off of Main Street as well and see what ideas came about.

Adjourned: Mike C. at 1:10pm

The next EDA Board Meeting meeting will be **Tuesday, June 23, 2020** @ Noon – Location TBD

EDA President Kathy Haala

EDA Sec/Treas. Gary Windschitl