

La Crescent Economic Development Commission

Minutes

April 8, 2019

City Hall

4:00 P.M.

Members Present: Larry Stryker, Eileen Krenz, Troy Nolop, Al Voss, Cherryl Jostad, Lori Kadlec, Mike Welch and Brett Kemmer. Staff present: Terry Erickson.

Item 1: Call to Order Larry called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. New members Lori Kadlec and Mike Welch were introduced and welcomed to the Development Commission. Larry asked if the new members would talk about their history, experience and interest in serving on the Development Commission. Mike and Lori then provided an overview of their business experience and history with the City of La Crescent.

Terry thanked them for agreeing to serve and provided an overview of major projects and the role the Development Commission plays in project development. He spoke to the many roles that the Development Commission has played in economic development in the City since its inception about five years ago. He provided an overview of the many projects the Commission has played a role in. This included advocating for legislation for the new \$2.5 million pedestrian bridge, local hotel tax legislation, raising funds for studies, attending and facilitating meetings, advocating for solar applications to municipal buildings, attending developer meetings, input into various projects, assistance with local surveys and design, target area and ways and means of gathering them. Terry explained that members and himself have attended many community meetings and spoke to local issues as well as arranging greeting of elected and government officials. Terry and the Commission have also attended meetings with various government entities including the DNR, MNDOT, DOC, and others. Larry asked if members will be getting 3 ring binders with information on bylaws and other materials. Terry mentioned he would put the binders together before the next meeting. A member wondered if business cards were a possibility.

Item 2: Agenda/Minutes

Larry asked that the minutes and agenda be approved. Eileen made a motion and Troy seconded to approve, motion carried.

Item 3: Branding Organizational Meeting/Branding Update:

Terry provided an overview of the Branding project and highlighted what had occurred at the branding meeting earlier in the day. Minutes of the branding meeting will be completed and sent out with the next meeting packet.

Item 4: All City Commission/Committee Meeting April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Terry reported that City Commission/Committee meeting will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center. This event allows an opportunity for all Commissions and Committees of the City to share their projects and future plans. All Commission members are welcome to attend. Cheryl spoke to the date, place and time of the event.

Item 5: Staff Report

Terry provided an update on the Small Cities Development grant and need for a public hearing to close out the program. He reported on the amount of dollars spent, homes completed and the need for a final public hearing.

Terry provided a brief report about a grant application recently completed to the DNR for \$116,500. The funding would be used to complete paving of un-paved portions of the Wagon Wheel Trail in Phase 1. Terry along with Attorney Skip Wieser have been in contact with Senator Jeremy Miller to increase the local Hotel Tax. Eileen spoke to the hotel tax and the percentages used to fund tourism activities.

Item 5: Member Reports: Eileen reported that the Event Center will be having a VIP opening day on May 23 at 4:30 with a Ribbon Cutting at 6:30 p.m. Troy mentioned that a relative will be carrying a flag as part of the half time celebration during the NCAA playoffs. Lori mentioned that the Café leases the building for the restaurant and that the building remains for sale.

Item 6. Member Reports:

Item 7 Other:

7. Adjourn:

Motion was made by Mike and Troy seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Terry Erickson, Community Development Staff.