

MINUTES OF THE LEWISTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, October 21, 2019

Pursuant to do call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Lewiston EDA, held at City Hall this 21st Day of October 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

The following members were present: EDA Chair Jon C. Nienow; Mayor Beth Carlson; Councilor Carol Boynton, and Commissioners Charlie Matzke, Nick Ebnet, and Russ Buege.

Absent: Commissioner Caleb Dahl.

Also Present: City Administrator, Cheryl Knight, and EDA Coordinator/CEDA Representative, Donna Mack; Guests: Southeast Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) Alissa Oeltjenbruns; Brein Maki, Emily Tweten, and Judy Hovelson.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m. by EDA Chair Jon C. Nienow.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion to approve Business and Financial Report, made by C. Matzke, Second by C. Boynton, with all members voting aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Motion to approve by C. Matzke, Second by C. Boynton. All members voting aye.

FOOLS FIVE ROAD RACE, Judy Hovelson in attendance: Regarding the Fools Five Road Race banners purchased approximately seventeen years ago are ripped, faded and the grommets are falling off. They will need to be replaced within the next two years. Ms. Hovelson has received an estimate of \$284 each for 30 banners at a total cost of \$8,520. The Fools Five nonprofit organization does not have the funds to purchase new banners. The committee is reaching out to the EDA Board for suggestions as to how to meet this expense. The banners need a new location to be stored also. J. Nienow suggested the old banners be offered at the Auction for purchase as a source of funds. The current ones have a vintage look about them.

The Fools Five Committee is interested in grant funding with additional contributions from the community. Ms. Hovelson stated the lamp posts need to be painted also. The Board agreed the lamp posts do need paint. Ms. Hovelson will communicate with Donna Mack for additional sources.

LEWISTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Alissa Oeltjenbruns, Southeast Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) attended the meeting to present information to the Board regarding establishing a Community Foundation. Brein Maki attended and spoke in regards to the research she has been doing with other people showing interest. Ms. Maki would like to see the Lewiston Community Foundation collaborate with the area communities such as Utica, Altura and Rollingstone also. These communities have students in the L-A District #857. SMIF and Rochester Area Foundation encouraged these three smaller communities be included. Ms. Oeltjenbruns stated, "No community serves well on its own. Working with the region has more impact if you collaborate together. And the City government is a strong partner to have with the foundation Advisory Board". It was suggested the community foundation could be named Heartland Together, or something similar. This is in the exploratory stages, therefore more research will be conducted. Motion to support a Community Foundation by N. Ebnet and seconded by C. Matzke. All members voting aye.

NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURS' DAY, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019 C. Matzke will contact the two businesses for the presentation of the awards to Precision Service and Repair & DR's Classic Cars. J. Nienow, C. Matzke, N. Ebnet and Mayor Carlson will attend the presentation. One presentation will be at 3:00 pm and the other will be at 3:30 pm.

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT, PETE'S MEATS: Submitted the Façade Request Form for reimbursement for the maximum of \$500 for the façade improvements on the front of their business. Motion by C. Matzke, and seconded by C. Boynton, with all members voting aye. The request will now be moved to City Council for approval.

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT, LEWISTON WELDING: Hilman Speltz did not submit the request in time for the EDA meeting. Table to the next meeting.

LEWISTON PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE: A library was discussed at the September meeting due to a request by a resident. Further research since the last EDA meeting was done by C. Knight, City Administrator. Ms. Knight contacted the Lewiston-Altura superintendent. The Superintendent stated at this time the High School library is under construction for repairs, but she felt this is a good idea.

It was stated at the Board meeting, when the High School was built, part of the bond issue was the library would be open to the public as a Public Library. In the changing of Superintendents, and the school is not in a position to put staff on the payroll for a Public Library, it is not open to the public. C. Knight will broach the subject with the Superintendent. The current Superintendent is probably not aware of the history of this matter.

A library book shed is available in the community, you can leave a book/take a book. R. Buege suggested the EDA get a map of the library book sheds in current front lawns to make the list available to the public. The Board believes there is only one available. It was then suggested possibly volunteers could construct wood sheds, and people would donate their extra books to fill them.

R. Buege visited with the Elementary School for an update for the potential of this library becoming public. The school is not interested in posting this.

N. Ebnet researched and found the SELCO book mobile is no longer in existence.

ANNEXATION UPDATE: C. Knight and J. Nienow will work on recommendations from the EDA to the City Council.

HOUSING UPDATE: C. Matzke has spoken with a local developer. They stated they are interested but too busy at this time. Ms. Mack spoke with Rick Speltz, this property is ready to develop, but needs streets. Mr. Speltz's past research found the lots on his property would be \$38,000 + per lot, and this is not feasible to build at that price. Ms. Mack spoke with the Executive Director of Rochester Area Builders, he stated he would have a developer phone Ms. Mack. To date Mack has not received a return phone call. Mack will reach out to the Chatfield developers again.

CEDA COORDINATOR UPDATE: A written report by D. Mack was included in the meeting packet. A short verbal review of the written report followed. Ms. Mack made a request for any questions. One comment was the success of the Façade Improvement Program.

WALK-ON ITEMS:

The trailer park on 1st Street owned by Hemker - This trailer park needs to be cleaned up. It has a trailer home with open walls which is a fire hazard, an invite to varmints, and is an eye sore. This trailer home may not have

applied for a permit when it was originally brought onto the property. C. Knight will contact the trailer park owner.

ADJOURN: motioned to adjourn, B. Carlson, second by C. Matzke, with all members voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Next EDA meeting to be Monday, November 18, 2019 @ 5:15 p.m.

Notes Submitted by: Donna Mack, Lewiston EDA Coordinator