KASSON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
Tuesday, May 7th, 2019
12:00PM
MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Kasson Economic Development Authority (EDA) was held at City Hall this 7th day of April, 2019 at 12:00PM.

The following members were present: Mayor Chris McKern, Tom Monson, Janice Borgstrom-Durst, Liza Larsen, and Richard Wegner.

Absent: Dan Eggler and Michael Peterson

The following staff members were present: Nicholas Ouellette, EDA Coordinator

Call to Order. Acting Chair Chris McKern called the meeting to order at 11:58AM

I. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Larsen moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Wegner seconded.

Ayes (5), Nays (0). Motion carried.

II. Coordinators Report.

   a. Housing Study & Shopko Meetings. Ouellette notified the board of the housing study draft presentation held at Dodge County, and the study was being finalized following community input. Ouellette noted his absence from the Shopko building meeting, and that since the meeting the building owners have selected a real estate agent to re-lease the building.
   b. Community Branding. Ouellette noted the Chamber would continue with the community branding project. Plans are being made to present the draft logo/imagery to the Chamber Board meeting on May 22nd.
   c. Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program. Ouellette updated the board of the current status of the project, with the agreement mailed to MNDOT for their approval and signature.
   d. Abatement Project. Ouellette noted that the Kasson City Council approved the tax abatement project for Prairie Willows Estates at their last meeting.
   e. Business Subsidy Policy. Ouellette brought the Business Subsidy Policy Draft to the boards attention, requesting further meetings. Monson suggested collecting ideas from community members on the downtown lots activation.
   f. Other.

III. RAEDI Membership. Ouellette asked the board if they would be interested in membership. Membership with RAEDI would be something to consider during budgetary planning for next year.

IV. <u>Downtown Lots Committee.</u> Ouellette asked the board if they would inform him on the status of a Downtown Lots Committee. Monson stated that Ouellette, Peterson, and himself would form the committee. Borhstrom-Durst suggested including volunteer support or a high school group for activation ideas A meeting of the committee will be scheduled between the three to address next steps.

V. <u>Kasson Konnections Agenda.</u> Ouellette noted topics planned for discussion at the next Kasson Konnections were potential Shopko building uses and business activation strategies during Hwy 57 reconstruction. Monson noted the downtown lots activation would be a good topic for discussion.

VI. <u>Business Façade Improvement Grant – Manorwood Association Inc. Application.</u> Ouellette noted the application needed EDA approval before the project would move forward. Board members reviewed the application board agreed the project was eligible and met the criteria. Monson motioned to approve the application. Borgstrom-Durst seconded.

Ayes (5), Nays (0). Motion carried.

VII. <u>Other Business.</u> McKern noted Home Federal had begun renovations on their building. A guest, Mr. Zeigler, noted that Rochester will over 500,000 ft^2 of vacant retail space similar to Kasson's Shopko building.

VIII. <u>Items for June EDA Meeting.</u> McKern noted the updated Business Subsidy Policy could return to the agenda for more discussion. McKern also noted preliminary budget discussions could be held as well. Contingent on project completion, Monson would like a follow up report on the Manorwood Association Inc. facade improvement project. Monson noted Downtown Lots Committee could have updates to bring to the next meeting.

IX. <u>Adjourn.</u> Monson moved to adjourn the meeting. Larsen seconded.

Ayes (5), Nays (0). Motion carried and meeting adjourned.

The next EDA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4th, 2019 at Kasson City Hall.

Minutes Submitted by: _____
Nicholas Ouellette, EDA Coordinator

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Dan Eggler, EDA President