

**THE MEETING OF THE EDA BOARD HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 2016, AT 6:04 P.M.,
AT THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M., by Thom Walker. Members present were Charles Snustead, Troy Minske, Genny Reynolds, and Sharon Sandberg. Staff present were Jolene Foss (Comm. Dev. Director) and Mary Lou DeWitt (Comm. Dev. Assistant).

Victoria Hallin was absent.

AGENDA ADDITIONS / DELETIONS:

REYNOLDS MOVED, SECOND BY MINSKE, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 20, 2016

REYNOLDS MOVED, SECOND BY SANDBERG, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2016 WITH THE CHANGE ON PAGE ONE, REMOVING THE SENTENCE "REYNOLDS SAID THEY GET FUNDS FROM THE ECRDC". UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Greater MN Parks & Trails

Foss said the City of Princeton is a member of Greater MN Parks & Trails and she does attend their meetings. This is their monthly newsletter and she thought the EDA Board would like to read it. This is where Carie Fuhrman had gotten the grant through for the community trail.

B. State-wide Health Improvement Program

Foss said this was sent out this week. There are \$1,000 grants available. The example in your packet shows what you could do with the funds. We had used the grant funds we received for the community garden at the Mille Lacs Depot. If you think of something that we could use the grant funds for, talk to Foss.

Reynolds asked how we get this information out to the public.

Foss said she would submit the grant. There could be an article in the paper to let people know of the grant. Foss will work with individual groups on this to get the grant as long as they are in the criteria. The grant maximum is \$1,000. Foss said the Police Department had used the grant funds for signage at the parks.

Walker said the Park Board might be interested to know about the grant funds. He also suggested the Rotary Group.

Foss said she would mention it to both.

C. Art Grant Option

Foss said government entities and nonprofits are eligible for this grant. She will let the paper know of this.

Reynolds asked if the Mille Lacs Historical Society could use this for the Great Northern Railway Depot that was donated from Long Siding and moved to their site.

Foss said possibility. She will send Barry a note on this.

MISCELLANEOUS:

A. EDA Balance Sheet

The EDA Board had no comments.

B. Verbal Report

1) Small Business Saturday, November 26th

The Small Business Saturday will be November 26th. The parade starts at 6:00 P.M. The Mille Lacs County Depot will have will also have activities going on.

2) NSP Update

Foss said she did give the property dispositions to MN Housing Finance Agency. She intends to talk to Wayne Eller on those properties. She learned more on how to get better points and heard it can take two or three times to receive the low housing financing. The points you need is 190 to get into round two. They intend to apply for it again next year. She has not received a recapture letter yet from MN Housing and hopefully they will let us continue to do something with the sites.

Foss said at the last City Council meeting that the Council agreed to sell Aero Business Park lots for \$1 with assessments. There will be criteria that will go along with this. This has been 12 years of paying down the assessments and we need to take a dramatic approach. Someone is interested in the first lot. One of the requirements that is being looked at for those buying the lots would have to have jobs created and this is to steer the selling of the lots in the right direction. There were some local people that were not happy with this move where the City decided to reduce the price of the lots.

Foss said she had a visit with some of the owners in the Industrial Park who would like to expand. There are four entities that are looking at expanding.

Foss said the City decided to decline the grant that would help extend the utilities out to the 200 acres west of town. Greg Anderson purchased the land and intends to use it for agriculture.

Foss said GPS 45:93 will be held on December 9th, 2016 at a St. Paul Country Club. It should be on Community Venture Network. Foss said she might attend.

The Minnesota Business magazine has come out and Foss handed out a copy to each EDA Board member. Our ad is in the magazine.

C. City Council and Planning Commission Minutes for October, 2016

The EDA Board had no comments.

REYNOLDS MOVED, SECOND BY SNUSTEAD, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION CARRIED. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:42 P.M.

ATTEST:

Thom Walker, President

Mary Lou DeWitt, Comm. Dev. Assistant