

Harmony EDA Minutes

February 5, 2015
7:30 AM

Community Center
Council Room

Present: Chris Skaalen, Steve Donney, Deb Swenson, Andy Batstone, and Kerry Kingsley

Also present: Jerome Illg and Chris Giesen

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:36 AM by Chris Skaalen

Minutes

The minutes of the January 8, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Swenson, second by Kingsley to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report

The status of loans were discussed. Motion by Kingsley, second by Donney to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Open Topic Discussion

Skaalen suggested that this item flow into the next agenda item regarding the joint board meeting on 2/18, unless others had something to discuss. No one had additional thoughts under this agenda item.

2/18 Joint Board Meeting/Experience Harmony Project: Set Meeting Agenda

The board discussed the agenda and topics to be discussed at the joint meeting planned for 2/18. The board talked about goals, potential discussion items, and potential collaborative projects. Child care facilities/needs, dentist, and a career awareness fair were projects of particular interest to the board. Consensus of the board was to have the Mayor lead the meeting, open with introductions, have a representative from each board talk about current projects/give an update, discuss future goals for each board, and then discuss how the boards can work together. The board also agreed that staff should assemble an agenda, invite the City Council and School Board, and ask for their input on suggested additional agenda item topics or revisions. The board discussed inviting other community organizations to participate in the meeting but it was the consensus of the board that because it would be a public meeting and because the meeting would be structured as a meeting of governmental entities, it would work best to have the EDA, Council, and School Board be the participants but extend invitations to attend to various organizations.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Giesen read a brief update on Chamber activities from Chamber Director Becky Hoff. It was mentioned that 2015 guidebooks were now available and that 2015 promotion opportunities were given to members. Hoff also wrote that the Trail Towns group had completed and would soon submit its non-profit status application and that the chamber will advertise for a part time (every other weekend) person to staff the Visitor's Center for the upcoming visitor season.

Prospects

Giesen discussed prospects. He gave an update on the trail extension project, and the small cities grant application.

Giesen also mentioned that Tri County Electric had not made an offer on the lot in the industrial park yet. Illg mentioned that the project would like coincide with the purchase of Alliant Energy territory.

The board also discussed the status of the telepharmacy issue in regards to Sterling Drug. Giesen gave an update and the board asked that he keep the board posted on any developments. It was mentioned that the state board of pharmacy would likely review the issue at its March or April meeting.

Adjournment

Motion by Swenson, second by Skaalen to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 AM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2015 at 7:30 AM in the Council Room at the Community Center.