

Harmony EDA Minutes

April 2, 2015
7:30 AM

Community Center
Council Room

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

Also present: Paul Schriever, Becky Hoff, Jerome Illg, and Chris Giesen

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

Minutes

The minutes of the March 5, 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. A claim from the Harmony Area Chamber of Commerce for 1st half 2015 funding in the amount of \$11,250 and a claim from CEDA for 2nd Quarter economic development staffing services in the amount of \$6,827.75 were presented. Motion by Skaalen, second by Swenson to approve the financials and claims as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Paul Schriever

Paul Schriever was present to request that he be able to till and/or plant the undeveloped land in the Industrial Park. He said that with hay prices falling and the condition of the ground in the Industrial Park, the \$1,000 donation to the 4th of July didn't make financial sense any longer. The board discussed. Staff explained that there are survey markers, infrastructure, and other considerations that the board should remember. Consensus was that the board wanted to have the property in a ready-for-construction condition and to maintain the appearance of the industrial park. The board asked if Mr. Shriver was receptive to a \$500 donation instead of a \$1,000 donation. He said he was agreeable. Motion by Skaalen, second by Batstone to allow Paul Shriver to mow and bale hay on the undeveloped lots in the Harmony Industrial Park in 2015 provided he donate \$500 to the Chamber's 4th of July celebration. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Open Topic Discussion

There was no open topic discussion this month.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Becky Hoff gave the chamber report. She said that the Visitor's Center will open soon and that they are in the early stage of planning for the 4th of July celebration.

Klip Joint Building Contract for Deed

Illg and Giesen gave a report on the status of the Klip Joint building contract for deed. Illg explained that the notice had been served on Jeremey Kruegel and that he would have 60 days to redeem the property or the city attorney would file the paperwork to transfer the property back to the EDA. Giesen explained a few next-step scenarios for the board including selling the property with the assistance of a realtor. The board discussed at length. Consensus was to revisit at the May meeting and have the city attorney present to discuss the legal issues with the transfer of the property.

New Home Construction Rebate Program

Giesen mentioned that he had received some feedback about the new home construction rebate program. He said there might be some confusion about restrictions on the program. The board discussed. Consensus of the board was that there was never any intention to have or imply that the program had age or residency requirements. The board suggested the staff update the application forms and issue a new press release.

Industrial Park Lot Sale to City for Well Project

Illg updated the board on the status of the sale of the Municipal Well #3. He said that the city engineer was still working on the design for the pump house which would determine how much land is needed. He said that the EDA would need to hold a public hearing on the matter either in May or June.

Dentist Attraction Project

Giesen reviewed information regarding the attraction of a dentist to Harmony. He discussed market research and possible opportunities. The board asked to stay posted.

Trail Extension Project

No new developments with the trail project were discussed.

Telepharmacy Issue

Giesen mentioned that Sterling's variance request will be on May 27, 2015 and that he will keep the board posted if anything changes.

Prospects

Giesen discussed prospects. He also mentioned possibly updating the Industrial Park sign as the JOBZ program has ended.

Adjournment

Motion by Swenson, second by Kingsley to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 AM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2015 at 7:30 AM in the Council Room at the Community Center.