

Harmony EDA Minutes

June 29, 2017
7:30 AM

Council Room
Community Center

Present: Chris Skaalen, Steve Donney, and Kerry Kingsley

Also Present: Jerome Illg and Chris Giesen

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:35 AM by Chris Skaalen.

Minutes

Motion by Kingsley, second by Donney to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports & Claims

Giesen reported all loans were current and the board reviewed the loan portfolio. There was a payment claim in the amount of \$7,138.50 from Community and Economic Development Associates for 3rd quarter 2017 economic development staffing services. Motion by Skaalen, second by Kingsley to approve the payment as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Because of preparations for the 4th of July celebration, there was no chamber report.

City Logo

The board reviewed several color options for the city logo and discussed at length. Discussion centered on whether there should be one official color scheme or multiple color schemes depending on the use. Consensus was that a final decision shouldn't be made with so many absent board members and that the discussion should continue at the next meeting.

Bike Trail Project: Update

Giesen reported that the committee had met the Friday afternoon after the last EDA meeting and discussed how to structure some kind of investment group to acquire the land for the trail should the options get close to expiring. Attending the committee meeting was Greg Schieber, Aaron Bishop, Mark Bishop, Andy Batstone, Steve Donney, and Chris Giesen. It was reported that the committee discussed several possible structures but that it might not be as easy to have a private investment group be involved after considering taxes and liabilities. However, Donney reported that there may be a sizeable donation to the community foundation in the near future that may be able to be earmarked for trail acquisition if the city holds the property until the state funds the project, with the city reimbursing the community foundation once the state acquires the land. Consensus of the committee and board was that because they wouldn't know whether or not grant funding would be awarded for acquisition until potentially July 2018 that the board should wait to hear about the grant funding and at the same time begin conversations with the Harmony Area Community Foundation to see if they would be willing to grant funds for acquisition, if other grants didn't come through.

Prospects/Community Update

Giesen reminded the board of the discussion the board had at the prior meeting about parking in the industrial park. Consensus of the board was that the issue was a city ordinance issue and the city council should at least be made aware of the request made by the Harmony Vet Clinic for their future building site.

Giesen asked if there were any additional thoughts on the structure of Experience Harmony II, consensus of the board was to keep the structure similar and that a date should be set for late September or early October, to be determined at the next meeting.

Donney mentioned that he had spoken with two business owners about three different ideas and opportunities. Giesen said he would follow up on those leads for him.

Adjournment

Hearing no objection, Skaalen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 AM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2017 at 7:30 AM, at the Community Center.