



Our mission is to attract, retain, and grow business and jobs in the Long Prairie Area.

Minutes

December 15, 2021

1. Meeting was called to order by VP Terri Jo P. at 4:30pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited
3. Roll Call was taken with the following present: Terri Jo Peery, Bob Klick, Dallas Nelson. Lu B. was in attendance.
4. Minutes of the November 2021 meeting were reviewed and a motion by Bob K, and second by Dallas Nelson, the minutes were approved
5. The Financial Report from the past two months was reviewed and a motion by Dallas N., and second by Bob Klick, the minutes were approved
6. **Old business**

-The Downtown Buildings – Hometown Furniture and the Opera House were toured by an architect from Widseth out of Alexandria. The Hometown estimate for architectural plans was 2, 950; the Opera House was 3,500. Hometown has asked for a second estimate.

-The estimate for the Hart Building brick work on the Facade was 295,000. The Targeted Communities Grant would fit half the bill if we applied for this grant and received it, however, there are many details that are impossible to get done by January 6, 2022. We will probably apply next year and use the services of a retired Initiative Foundation grant writer. Contact is being made soon. Jeremy Weber is not convinced about the estimate and brick work. He believes that there should not be any brick put on the facade. Lu B told him that he would need to get an estimate from someone else soon in order to move forward.

-Prairie Foods building – on hold- vacation

- Report Board Basics Workshop: Lu, Terri Jo Peery and Bob Click attended. There was good information that was helpful for our board. We need to correct our By-laws to change the terms President to Chair, VP to Vice Chair and Treasurer to Financial Chair. More information was geared toward fundraising and getting members.

Next will be in February 16 2022 from 9:30-11:30 AM.

-Powerpoint Lu showed a PP of Downtown to exhibited the fact that there are many businesses and forward motion towards revitalization of Central Ave. The Food Shelf has toured the Opera House and will look into other vacant building possibilities.

7. New business

- Moving forward- other ideas- Ice Rink- There has been a anonymous donor who will be matching 2,500 of community donations
- Revisit list of goals and accomplishments- There have been goals and accomplishments added to the list on the agenda. They are in red. We will review them in the new year.

8. Next meeting Date and Time January 19, 2021 4:30 (3rd Wed.)

9. Other -none

10. Adjourn

2020 LPEDA Goals accomplished

- ✓ City/EDA website with Golden Shovel- launched in July 2020.
- ✓ Initiative Foundation Child Care Solutions grant matching funds & disbursement of \$11,500 end of July.

2021 LPEDA Goals accomplished

- ✓ Revise by-laws, establish mission and stabilize group membership.
- ✓ Advertised for the Southwest Industrial park and an article was written about it
 - IQ magazine ad - 3 x
 - Golden Shovel article- SOUTHWEST INDUSTRIAL PARK PATIENTLY AWAITS SUITORS:
<https://www.longprairie.net/news/p/item/33419/southwest-industrial-park-patiently-awaits-suitors>
www.longprairie.org
 - Chamber & FB page shared article
- ✓ Creating a comprehensive list of available buildings/business real estate - posting it on LOIS
- ✓ Initiative Foundation Child Care Solutions grant - \$10,000 - \$5,000 grant for Trinity Learning Center's Infant care room/s & \$2,500 for Jill Hanson at LPGE - Work based learning certification in order to continue with a CDA program and work program
- ✓ Nonprofit Board Basics Workshop (virtual) attended by board members: Mary S, Bob K, Terri Jo P and Lu on November 18, 2021 - sponsored by Sourcewell & Initiative Foundation

2021 LPEDA Goals for the LPEDA - Future Goals, projects and Ideas

- ✓ ONGOING- Promote & Advertise for the Southwest Industrial park on Chamber FB page and other sources
- ✓ ONGOING- Continue keeping comprehensive list of available buildings/business real estate - posting it on LOIS
- ✓ ONGOING- Initiative Foundation Child Care Solutions grant allocation and continuing to partner with various businesses in finding solutions to Day Care issues.
- ✓ **Prairie Foods building – planning and researching best use of the building**
- ✓ **Hart Mall - grant for capitol renovations- providing assistance and guidance w/ the City**
 - Projects for LPEDA:
 - Welcome signs, seasonal décor- see page 3-10 on Long Prairie Projects Powerpoint
 - Downtown Vision Plan and short-term priorities that can be accomplished with little effort
 - New businesses and housing options in town
 - Bike trail – Lu shared google drive document folder – see link below
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1q5iFNsAsCyxYu670IP8OSWTyBwDMclq>
[w?usp=sharing](#)
 - Safe Routes to Schools- Safer streets- see email attachment
 - Vitality of community, good schools, parks and recreation and opportunities for spouse. Click on link for project possibilities:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1xOrrbQdIPUSmyK2uybrLpsjFrds_k9vtVRVhUSgBobY/edit?usp=sharing
 - Comprehensive Plan updates
 - Hiring a FT EDA director. May not be an option for 5 years due to debts that must be paid off.