

Minutes of May 18, 2022 Meeting of LPEDA

1. Meeting was called to Order at 3:30 PM (earlier time) by Vice Chair Bob Klick.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll Call was taken with the following present: Dallas, Bob, Mary, Terri Jo, David. Lu and Rick Utech were also in attendance. Kevin Berrios was a guest.
4. Minutes of the April 2022 meeting were discussed. Bob noted that several changes were necessary, namely that in the motion to approve changes to the By-Laws, mention is made that each time President or Vice President is noted, it should be changed to Chair and Vice Chair. This is in Section 2.2, 2.3 2.4 and 4.6. With that noted, minutes were approved on motion by David, second by Dallas and approval by all present.
5. Financial Report: there was no report available so it will be sent in coming days.
6. In Old Business, Rick met with Little Red Wagon reps and engineer for Day Care Center update. We are waiting for drawings from Greg (engineer) and cost figures for renovation. Need to determine how Day Care will be paid for. At this time, we are looking at care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers with school age possibly being added later. Knowing the great need for day care, we are hoping a possible winter remodel may happen. An update on downtown building will wait till after 4 PM (this update did not happen at this meeting). There has been some demo work done on former Prairie Foods Building which will house a Family Dollar/Dollar Tree store. Don Hickman, Donniel Robinson and Hannah Mayhew joined the meeting at 4 PM with updates on the DEED Grant. We are informed that 4.5 Million has been awarded to Little Falls, St Cloud, LP, Brainerd and Pine River. This can be used for renovation, demolition, design, landscaping, etc, with a 70%/30% split. City does not touch money, administered through IF. Each community should be guaranteed \$400,000 or more with 3 years to spend money. Comm. Grove has asked for additional \$20 M for greater MN. Don suggested that we may want to form a Task Force to move prioritizing requests more quickly. Areas that will be targeted are hospitality, retail and we must focus on equity/diversity.

7. In New Business, the LP signs are being worked on and being done at a minimal cost. A new design should be available by June 6 and will need City Council approval. The 42 new holiday wreaths will be here for next winter.
8. Davis briefly mentioned need to apply for small city grant for West Side improvements. Lu noted that Welcome Guide will be available shortly.
9. Next meeting will be on June 15, 2022 at 4:30 PM.
10. With motion by Dallas and second by Mary, meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mary Schmidt, LPEDA Secretary