

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010**

Minutes of the Tuesday, March 16, 2010 Economic Development Corporation Meeting

At 1:00 p.m. Chair Erdmann called the meeting to order at the Wild Rose Manor.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supv. Maloney, Lynne Wichmann, Arden Bandt, Helena Waala, Mary Lou Neubauer, James Erdmann, Joe Fargo, and Dick Kalata

OTHERS PRESENT: Patrick Nehring, Deb Behringer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved on a motion by Bob Maloney, 2nd by Arden Bandt. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: It was noted in last months minutes that Terry Lippert would be contacted regarding his intent to stay on the Board which he has indicated he is interested in doing so. With that notation, Joe Fargo made the motion to approve the minutes, 2nd by Helena Waala. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE CARE - JOHN PRINDLE: A presentation was made by Cooperative Care Services. Prindle explained they are mainly based out of Waushara County however have recently expanded into Montello, Oxford, and now to Ripon. They are a family care co-op owned by the employees which deal with assistance to individuals wishing to stay in their homes but cannot do all the duties associated with upkeep both in home and personal areas. They utilize the assistance of CNA's and others to assist the client with their needs. They do not provide medical services or care. Recently there has been increased contact for the home care noting references from the VA for those located in the rural areas. Prindle stated one cost they recoup is mileage for services that unfortunately in rural settings is greater because of the distances to stores, etc. They are looking into transportation needs and Deb provided a contact name for John to discuss options with. He also noted that statistically speaking, there will be an increase for services of this type in the future due to the aging "baby boomers". The company has been in existence for about nine years. Prindle was also informed of the Tri-County EDC should expansion needs be in his future as an optional funding source. As for a further item on the agenda, it was noted there presently is not a request from Cooperative Care before the Board.

AVAILABLE PROPERTIES: Jim Erdmann stated a landscape contracting company is looking for a spot to rent and he has provided them some options. He also stated that the Caves Trucking business has closed in Wild Rose. Knowledge of other available buildings should be shared with Patrick.

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

Erdmann shared information from the annual report and the activity that Bill Wheeler has with the area. They had their Strategic Planning Session noting four areas of concentration for 2010. 1) Website improvement; 2) Develop business assistance; 3) Create a baseline from the

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Business Retention Surveys; and 4) Determine what our niche is. The Retention Survey is scheduled to begin in the summer and the Board will be requested to assist with the process.

WAUSHARA AREA CHAMBER: Judy was not in attendance and no report was provided.

WAUSHARA TOURISM RESOURCE COMMISSION: It was stated that the room tax collection is down from previous years. At present, down about 40%. However it was stated there are some establishments who have not paid from 2009 and it is up to the specific communities to pursue the collection and turn over the money to the commission. Erdmann stated the only long term allocation made is for Alice in Dairyland in 2011 with \$5,000 per year being ear-marked for this.

UW EXTENSION: The I & E Club has changed format to be a Training Roundtable. Noting plans are for this meeting to be held in the morning (8:00), discussions can take place and then the group would bring in specialists to speak at an upcoming session. April 13th is the tentative date for the next meeting.

BUSINESS VISITS: As noted at the January meeting, the EDC will hold their meetings throughout the various communities. There will also be business visits with the Retention Survey project.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ACTIVITIES FOR 2010: Deb noted we did not have an annual meeting with a speaker in January. Jim Erdmann asked Patrick to look into the availability of some speakers for next years meeting and report on options at the next WEDC meeting. It is at this meeting that each of the towns and cities who are members are invited to attend and learn more about WEDC.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA: Meeting will be May 18th at Especially For You (per availability), Arden will contact them. Jim Erdmann will ask Bill Wheeler to attend.

Meeting was then adjourned on a motion by Arden Bandt, 2nd by Lynne Wichmann. Meeting adjourned.

WILD ROSE MANOR: Amy Yaresh then provided a tour of their facility.

MARY LOU NEUBAUER
Secretary