

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

West Square Building, Rm 213

505 Broadway Street, Baraboo, Wisconsin

February 12, 2018

Economic Development Committee Members Present Marty Krueger, Dennis Polivka, Peter Vedro, Andrea Lombard, Nathan Johnson, Brian Peper, Andy Andrews

Others Present Brian Simmert, Alene Kleczek Bolin, Lisa Wilson, Chuck Spencer, Tim Damos, Dennis Deery, Rael LaBrecche, Kathy Schauf (by phone)

At 4:01 p.m., Vice Chair Johnson called the Economic Development Committee meeting to order and certified compliance with the open meetings law.

Adopt Agenda Motion by Polivka/Andrews to adopt the agenda. Motion carried, all in favor.

Public comment None

Communications

Discussion and Consideration: Local Government Institute – “Future Regions” Initiative

- a. Kathryn Schauf, Eau Claire County Administrator: Chippewa Valley Future Region

Schauf spoke about the LGI Future Regions Initiative and its impact and benefits on the Eau Claire area. Schauf spoke about the process and involving people who do not necessarily interact with local government. LGI does all of the pre meeting work and provides summaries. Schauf spoke about the application of a ‘foresight model’ to help participants develop short and long-term goal initiatives and how to develop strategies to keep identified initiatives going. LGI provides follow-up to assure that initiatives move into the implementation phase.

Polivka asked what the process was to choose people to participate. Schauf responded that the idea is to reach audiences that have a vested interest in the community and who would not normally participate.

Vedro spoke about assuring the Future Regions foresight process be grounded in the Plan. Schauf noted that the majority of individuals that will participate have different approaches and are not necessarily elected officials.

- b. Proposed Funding Structure

Krueger noted that two local units of government that will be part of the funding structure include Sauk County and the Ho-Chunk Nation. The Ho-Chunk and Sauk County will be contributing \$9000 each. Also, each of the five Chambers of Commerce will likely be contributing \$1500 each. The Committee noted that this is a positive collaboration between the County and the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Motion by Johnson/Andrews to allocate \$9000 of the carryforward Placemaking funds to help convene the Future Regions Initiative in Sauk County. Motion carried/all in favor.

- c. Application

Kleczek Bolin presented the application that was submitted to the LGI.

Placemaking

a. Update – Community Liaison

The position was offered and accepted by Jared Pinkus with a starting date of April 2, 2018.

Broadband Update Survey Report – Jenny Erickson

Erickson spoke about Sauk County's Digital Divide Index score, Infrastructure/Adoption Score, and Socioeconomic Score. Columbia County was used as a comparable county. Erickson noted \$15.4 million missed in economic benefit. Erickson presented the results of a resident (34% response) and business survey (21% response) in the Spring Green area.

Update on SCIL facilitation process

Rael LaBreche from SKIL spoke about revised mission, curriculum, staffing, recruitment of participants, projects, and continued community involvement of alumni. LaBreche spoke about survey work and interviews with key stakeholders. Erickson spoke about pillars and about how to build personal and shared leadership skills. LaBreche spoke about the need for a full time position to take SKIL to the next level.

Discussion of Logo Contest: Process and Next Steps

Kleczek Bolin spoke about developing a subcommittee to review logos and make a recommendation to the EDC and to review a letter submitted by Joe VanBerkel encouraging the county to retain the current logo. Andrews, Lombard, and Krueger will serve on the review team in addition to selected county staff.

Great Sauk State Trail Update

Simmert spoke about funding opportunities with the Friends of the Great Sauk State Trail. Krueger provided an update on the disassembly of the Sauk City rail bridge.

Next meeting date(s) and agenda items

March 19, 2018

Adjourn

Motion by Polivka/Johnson to adjourn at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Andrews
Economic Development Committee Secretary