Monthly Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Tom Klassa- **President**  **Staff:** Joel Zimmerman-Executive Director

Sara Miles–**Vice President via zoom** Whitney Korthof- Administrative Coordinator

Trisha Condreva-**Treasurer-absent**

Virginia Hurckman- **Secretary-absent**

Bill Marx **via zoom**

Kevin Pagorek **via zoom**

David Wilson

Jill Dunlavy

Sherry Sutton-absent

Steve Smith-absent

1. Meeting Called to Order @ 7:33 a.m. by President Klassa.
2. Approval of Minutes of the March 2021 meeting. **Motion Dunlavy/Pagorek** to approve with one correction. **Passed.**
3. Treasurer’s Report-given by Zimmerman. No unusual expenses for the month.
4. Introduction of new board member appointed by Washburn County, Steve Smith
5. **Motion Wilson/Dunlavy** to nominate and elect Nikki Janisin as the new Birchwood Rep. **Passed.**
6. Correspondence received-none
7. Membership comments-none.
8. Director’s Report-
   * Zimmerman participated in the WI Express Panel, discussing with current UW-Madison Students the benefits of working, living, and owning a business in rural WI. Two attendees have contacted Zimmerman with possible interest of locating in Washburn County after their studies.
   * Zimmerman met with Xcel Energy and discussed their desire to expand Electric Vehicle charging stations in the County.
   * Zimmerman met with Rep. Armstrong and reps of WEDA discussing the housing issues in NW Wisconsin. Dave has some contacts of developers he’s had good dealings within Barron County he’s willing to share with us.
   * Mosaic received 3 PSC grants, one of which will allow them to break ground in Birchwood. They are still awaiting word on the EDA grant which would allow them to expand to Sarona, Shell Lake, Spooner, and Stone Lake with that grant award.
   * There are a few small businesses opening, a retail store in Shell Lake’s Downtown, a coffee shop at Poor Richard’s, a house plant boutique in Spooner and a health smoothie/tea bar in Spooner, with plans to open a location in Birchwood.
   * Worked with a scientific research company to help find a location for them to open their research facility in Spooner, with hopes that it will grow in size and employment in time.
   * Zimmerman will be submitting the Bank of the West Grant this week, for $5000.
   * It was brought up that some board members are not able to attend the 7:30am board meeting time. Zimmerman will send an email asking people what times do NOT work for them to attend board meetings, and Zimmerman will compile the list to see if we can find a time that all board members are able to attend.
9. No need for Closed Session.
10. No need to reconvene.
11. Other Concerns: County updates given by Wilson.
12. NEXT MEETING DATE: **May 18th, 2021**
13. **Motion Wilson/Dunlavy** to adjourn at 8:18. **Passed.**