



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING NOTES

January 15, 2019

Members Present: Joshua Dormady, Kelton Glewwe, Chad Schlemmer, Dan Schadegg, Steve Doody, and Christa Seaberg

Ex-Officio Members: Dr. Dave Webb, Jennifer Gale

Staff Present: Ryan Garcia, Director of Economic and Community Development

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doody at 8:17 a.m.

2. Comprehensive Plan Update Summary.

Mr. Garcia thanked EDAB members for making time to participate in the joint Comprehensive Plan work sessions in 2018. He advised that the Economic Development Chapter would be available prior to the next EDAB meeting in March, and that the full plan update would be available for review shortly thereafter. Mr. Garcia asked if there were any other comments or feedback from the EDAB about the Comprehensive Plan.

Dr. Webb suggested that Kaposia Landing should continue to be focused on as a destination and community asset. He supported the idea of additional programming to include community events, festivals, and concerts and additional investment to fully realize the plan and potential of the park. EDAB members agreed and were encouraged by the additional funding offered through Dakota County to be dedicated to improvements at the park.

Ms. Gale noted that the Inver Grove Heights Convention and Visitors Bureau recently brought on a new Executive Director, and could be a critical partner in promoting Kaposia Landing and all of the City's recreational assets. Staff will look for an opportunity for the CVB to engage the EDAB and City Council in the near future.

3. Economic Development Website

Mr. Garcia gave a presentation on the new Economic Development website. The website is intended to highlight the South St. Paul business community and to help new businesses or developers navigate the development opportunities and processes in the City. Mr. Garcia encouraged EDAB members to help staff identify businesses that might be interested in sharing their story on the website.

4. Project Update

Mr. Garcia noted that the City Council included \$50,000 in the 2019 budget to conduct a market study and planning vision for the area surrounding Grand Avenue and Concord Street to the Mississippi River. Mr. Garcia suggested that the EDAB would likely serve as a steering committee of sorts for this effort, which should be underway in the late-Spring.

Mr. Garcia noted that the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development had approved a grant award of \$701,250 for additional contamination cleanup at 587 Verderosa Avenue, just north of the Hardman Avenue off-ramp.

Mr. Garcia noted that the City anticipated a summer 2019 closing on the acquisition of an approximately 18 acre site located at 680 Verderosa Avenue from the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES). The property is being graded and filled for future redevelopment as an industrial site. Mr. Garcia thanked Mr. Doody, EDAB members, and the business community for their patience as Staff worked to find a viable relocation option for the fill material that had been piled on sites near Concord and Grand.

5. Adjourn

Chair Doody adjourned the meeting at 9:05 am.