



DRAFT

THE MEETING OF THE EDA BOARD HELD ON JUNE 16, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M., AT THE PRINCETON CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M., by Carrie Petersen. Members present at City Hall were Charles Snustead, Victoria Hallin, Thom Walker, and Nicholas Taylor – per zoom. Staff present were Heather Brooks (Comm. Dev. Manager), and Mary Lou DeWitt (Comm. Dev. Zoning Specialist).

Absent: Genny Reynolds and Sharon Sandberg. (Hallin arrived at 6:02 P.M.)

Faith Goenner (Goenner Consulting) was present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON APRIL 21ST, 2022

WALKER MOVED, SECOND BY SNUSTEAD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21ST, 2022. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Hallin arrived at 6:02 P.M.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: None

REPORTS: None

FORUM FOR IDEAS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Revolving Loan Fund Statement

Brooks found out the general information on the Initiative Foundation Funds. There is \$111,937.86 in our account with them. They would like the City to contact them with the interested parties name and they will reach out to them and then tell them about other grants available. There are not many perimeters.

Walker said it is used like GAP Funding.

Brooks said yes. Maybe the person could use that funding with how the interest rate is now increasing. There are no policies that she is aware of.

Petersen said maybe the funds could be used for marketing for the Business Park for having people come in.

Brook said the Revolving Loan Fund funds have to come back to the City to keep the funds available.

B. EDA Strategic Planning Process

Goenner asked where the EDA Board would like to start.

Petersen said she went through the comments from surveys and made notes by them.

Goenner said to recap the survey we are looking at the themes and where we are now. The survey had a good response and she thanked Hallin for the extra survey's she brought in. Goenner said McPherson had a vision of working through a few of the themes. Smart goals breaks down to specific measured, attainable, relevant, and timeframe.

Petersen said there were comments to fix up the parks. Riverside and Reibe has been fixed. For Mark Park there was a need to have a batting cage. The comments for the parks were geared to age friendly and outdoor recreations. This would help bring people to Princeton.

Walker said the Park Board is active and to have a skate park there is a reason not to do it and that is the liability.

Petersen said outdoor recreation for 12–17-year-old was a request where outdoor opportunities in our parks.

Goenner said there is themes with the thoughts and pulls together where the city is not taking the brunt of it. The Community Garden is such a good model. This is a space where the City has open up their land for residents.

Walker agrees. He suggested working more with the Fair Board where there is a closer interaction. We need to continue additional housing and encourage development.

Taylor said we should be more supportive to local businesses, age friendly, and transportation where sidewalks are maintained by the City. Invest in sidewalk maintenance where businesses have the access open to visit their business.

Walker said having the population increase now to 5,000 will the county stop doing the roads.

Brooks said the Transportation Study first and then we have more jurisdiction.

Walker said a sidewalk machine is about \$100,000 and not cheap.

Taylor said what is the City using now because they are maintaining some sidewalks.

Goenner said she is a volunteer in a nonprofit group and they volunteered at the Light Up Princeton. That was helpful getting funds for their group. She is concerned that people do not know where to volunteer.



DRAFT

Petersen commented that we need another event in the fall when a band is outside and maybe a hayride, like Halloween.

Brooks said we do have volunteers here and they just do it on their own.

Walker said there are a lot of volunteers that are so helpful in our community. If there was another event it would be good to give the funding to the groups, but not where the City runs it. Those groups know what they are doing.

Goenner said the block party was a huge event.

Petersen said a goal would be recreation for everyone.

Walker said partnerships with the stakeholders. Have a discussion at some point regarding redevelopment in the future.

Goenner said revitalization for rural communities. Inventory of what the cost are and then what kind of redevelopment we focus on.

Walker commented that schools and hospitals are in tough shape.

Taylor said is there an assessment process of what needs to be to recouped or renewed and have a capital campaign to raise funds. Do it for a five year period to raise funds and then go to a next campaign.

Walker said if redevelopment is something we want to do, then focus on it.

Petersen said businesses need to be increased with more mom-and-pop shops.

Walker said read the comments and filter what is important.

Goenner will make notes from what she has written down and will give those for the next meeting in August.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Downtown Façade Improvement Grant for Villa Manor

Brooks informed the EDA Board that Noel and Kathy Johnson have applied for the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant for their site at 111-119 Rum River Drive South. The work that will be done is awnings and repainting. Invoices have been provided and the total for the update is \$4,831. The maximum fund for a site is \$2,500 and the applicant would only receive 50% of the invoice amount.

The EDA Board approved the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant for \$2,415.50.

HALLIN MOVED, SECOND BY TAYLOR, TO APPROVE THE DOWNTOWN FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT FOR \$2,415.50 FOR NOEL AND KATHY JOHNSON FOR THEIR BUILDING SITE AT 111-119 RUM RIVER DRIVE SOUTH. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

HALLIN MOVED, SECOND BY SNUSTEAD, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UPON THE VOTE, THERE WERE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:18 P.M.

ATTEST:

Carrie Petersen, President

Mary Lou DeWitt, Comm. Dev. Zoning Specialist