



**Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes, October 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. Open meeting laws noted in the City Office.

**Members Present:** Tom Shoemaker, Darcy Johnson, Derek Downer, Logan Baker, Jan tenBensel, Randy Heitmann, Dave Custer, Jarod Albers, Judy Jackson

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Melissa Jackson, Margo Kent

**Agenda Corrections or Additions:** Added CPS/Cobblestone co-op marketing program discussion; removed item G (fellow/Perkins Foundation idea); added main intersection by FAW discussion.

**Consent Approval of Financials/Invoices and Minutes and Bills:** The Board reviewed the monthly financials. A motion was made by Darcy Johnson, seconded by Judy Jackson, to approve the financials. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

Margo Kent presented the CPS/Cobblestone co-op marketing program proposal. The school would like to incentivize other schools in town for athletic events to "Stay in Cambridge." The "Stay in Cambridge" Incentive Program would reimburse schools that lodge in Cambridge (at the Cobblestone Inn) 1/2 (up to \$50) of the cost of their lodging expense. The Board requested more time to discuss and then will get back to the school. The Board also requested that Margo gather more information from the hotel. Discussion was tabled until the November meeting.

M. Jackson gave an activities report to the Board.

M. Jackson updated the Board that Chapter 7 bankruptcy has been filed on Berlynda Barnes' Down Payment Assistance loan. Jackson will work with Lisa Shifflet to identify a bankruptcy attorney to ask further questions about how this should be handled.

The Board held discussion on the Alexis Burke/Anthony Starr Down Payment Assistance application. A motion was made by Jan tenBensel, seconded by Darcy Johnson, to approve the application contingent upon project completion (relocation of existing residence onto basement located at 714 Parker St.). Motion carried.

A motion was made by Logan Baker, seconded by Derek Downer, to not advertise in the Cobblestone guest directory. Jan tenBensel abstained. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Jan tenBensel, seconded by Logan Baker, to approve M. Jackson's attendance at the upcoming Chamber sponsored Leadercast event. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Nebraska hand corn-shucking competition that is looking for a host site in 2022. M. Jackson will contact Holdrege and inquire as to whether we can commit to two or three years from now due to the amount of time and planning this event would require.

**Project Updates:**

M. Jackson gave the Board an update on the Nebraska Tax Advantage. Jan tenBensel is going to do some research to find out more information.

Darcy Johnson gave the Board a recap of the land bank discussion held last month with Mayor Gunderson.

Jan tenBensel suggested the Board recommends changes to City Council about the corner by FAW. Parked cars pose a visibility issue when turning onto Hwy 6/34. Jan's recommendation is to impose no parking ½ block from the intersection in all directions or restricting the parking back by two spaces. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.