

Economic Development Committee Minutes 3/13/2018

Meeting called to order by McClure 5:45 pm.

Roll Call: Attendees: McClure, Weiland, Keuning, Bartello, Lindsay

PCBA Sign Proposal

Sue Ponder led the discussion around the progress of the PCBA's Sign initiative. Still several questions need to be answered, but possibly will be asking the EDC to help in the cost sharing and expense of the sign which may be a 50/50 cost share between the EDC and the PCBA. More details will be available by the next EDC meeting in May.

Habitat for Humanity

Bartello provided an update to the group on possibilities for Jasper County. Projects may mirror what is being done in Dallas County, but would be Jasper County effort. Organizing a Jasper County Steering Committee at this time. The group will need volunteers and people to make successful and to identify areas of need in Jasper County. The restructuring of houses will be priority with new homes coming later. They want our community involvement. Discussion what was held on the request to the EDC and what the fit is for the EDC or if it belongs in another group. (Hometown Pride or other). No additional discussion and no action was taken.

Bandstand Project Update

Project is moving forward and Grants have been submitted to the Jasper County Foundation and Prairie Meadows. No action taken by the EDC at this time.

Demolition Program

Bartello updated the committee on progress made by the Council on identifying properties. Additional discussions and communication the City Manager and City Attorney are having with property owners. Program was discussed and highly supported by the EDC. Additional discussion for committee/city to be pro-active in identifying additional properties, buildings that may have a fit for the program. No additional action taken.

Self Defense Class for Women

Discussion about the upcoming class being held at Community Center in Prairie City on April 4. Sign up has been good and will be taught by Chief Bartello. EDC was supportive.

Community Public Meeting

Discussion by Bartello to the EDC on what this meeting may look like and requested the EDC have members in attendance. Looking at ways to get additional residents and groups involved in the future of Prairie City.

Community Liaison Update

Keuning updated the committee on Developer discussion, meetings, and city tours. Not strong support from any of these Development groups at this time. Keuning discussed the roadblocks that have been brought up to date. Biggest issues is the risk of speed of sales and at what the price level buyers may be acceptable of paying for a lot in Prairie City. Discussed the possibility that the City may have to consider the sharing in the risk if we want to project to proceed sooner

than later. Discussed available buildings and the tours and discussions that have been held with possible buyers or possible renters. Names have been withheld due to confidentiality requested by interested parties.

Meeting adjourned at 7 pm