Pulaski County Economic Development

(Pulaski County Community Development Commission)
Tuesday, 4 October 2016
Celebrations Room, Meadow Springs
Francesville, Indiana

Meeting Notes

Members present: President Gregg Malott, Membership Officer Larry Brady (Commissioner); Aaron Paulsen (Chamber of Commerce), Darlene Mellon (Francesville); Beth Grund, Dave Zeltwanger. Executive Director Nathan P. Origer, Project Coordinator Krysten Hinkle.

Members absent: Vice-President Annie Scholz, Executive Secretary John Plowman [personal], Past President Bill Champion; County Councilor Doug Roth, Suzanna Wilcoxon (Medaryville) [health-related], Lawrence Loehmer (Monterey); Natalie Federer [personal], Andrew Fritz [work-related].

Guests: Sandy Saltsman, Meadow Springs.

Call to Order

Director Origer having noted the time and the lack of quorum, President Malott called the meeting to order at 6:18p.m. Prior to the convening of the meeting, those present had enjoyed sumptuous refreshments provided by Mrs. Mellon.

Consent Agenda

No quorum.

Old Business

Hometown Collaboration Initiative: All necessary approvals had been received, excepting INDOT permitting for the short stretches bike-route system would utilize State highways. The director noted that traffic-counting came in under budget, and he's waiting to hear from OCRA on how to maximize the funds leftover. Next steps include brochure-printing and marketing of the bikeroute network. President Malott asked if the project would be completed by spring, and Director Origer said that he anticipated a sooner finish than that.

PC-CARE: The Advisory Commission on Industrial Development had met on the prior Friday and agreed to a purchase price. The deal is pending sale of the County Farm, another source of financing, or both. Director Origer recently had been made aware of the requirement that the County Council sign off on any sale of county property of a certain value. He would bring it before the Council as soon as possible. A survey of the County Farm was underway, as well as a second appraisal, requested by Commissioner Bud Krohn, Jr., because of his unfamiliarity with the local appraiser who had first assessed the land's value. Discussion ensued, with Commissioner Brady conveying the support of Medaryville community leaders and expressing his own favorable opinion, and with Mr. Zeltwanger seconding the commissioner. In response to Mr. Paulsen's query regarding the County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT), a potential funding source, the director and Mr. Zeltwanger explained CEDIT, its history, and its current Pulaski County uses.

Career and Technical Education curriculum grant: All funding is officially in place for the RAM-TECH program for at least the first two years, including equipment and instructor wages. The County Attorney is finishing the contract, and once approved by commissioners and Mr. Hadley (instructor), Mr. Hadley would receive back compensation for instruction already provided. Commissioner Brady asked the director to arrange for him to visit the classroom to observe the program.

2017 budget: After having been would be appearing at a joint session of the County Council and Commissioners to make one final plea for the project coordinator's position to become full-time. Origer described the litany of support letters that he had passed on to the Council in regards to the position. He encouraged members to attend the meeting as a show of support. Director Origer added that he would also be requesting a transfer of funds to the overtime budget, as he had exceeded the amount of compensatory time he is allowed to carry, per policy, and had expended the overtime budget. Origer added that this can be attributed to the need for a second full-time position in the office. Discussion ensued, with the suggestion that the director reach out to two councilors in particular, CDC member Doug Roth and Mike Tiede.

Wage-and-benefit survey: Nothing to report.

Francesville and Winamac Main Street organizations: Francesville and Winamac both had received word in the previous week that they had been officially recognized as Indiana Main Street communities. Mrs. Mellon reported that Francesville's UpTown Project is currently organizing two events: town-wide Halloween activities, and a Turkey Trot, scheduled for November. Additionally, they had received permission from the Town to develop a Website. Director Origer reported that Wander Our Winamac group had been organizing a paddle auction and homemade bake-sale for November. Mrs. Mellon further noted that the former AdaptaSoft buildings would be going up for auction on 17 October.

Adopt-a-river program: Nothing to report.

Pulaski County TorchFest: Mrs. Hinkle reported that TorchFest and the Torch Relay plans had been completed as for as possible at this time. The Torch Relay would be in Pulaski County from 3:00 through 5:00 on the afternoon of Friday, 7 October, and would kick-off TorchFest, which would run Sunday, 9 October. Discussion ensued.

CDC future structure/reorganization: Director Origer reviewed an organizational flowchart showing the staff structure of a hypothetical Department of Planning and Development encompassing economic and community development, planning and zoning, and building. Brief discussion ensued.

Membership vacancy (non-exempt labor): Director Origer expressed frustration at his inability thus far to coordinate with local employers to find someone to fill this vacancy; he was urged to continue looking for the ideal candidate.

New Business

None.

Other Business Deemed to Be Necessary

Leadership Pulaski County: Director Origer reported briefly on the state of the program, in which Commissioner Brady and Mrs. Hinkle have also been involved; the first class had been pushed back from January to the fall to allow for better planning, marketing and fundraising.

Alliance Bank Junior Board of Directors: Mr. Zeltwanger reported on the experiences of this exciting venture sponsored by the bank.

Public Comment

None.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion: Mr. Zeltwanger; second: Commissioner Brady; no discussion; approval all. 7:16p.m.

Following adjournment, proprietress Sandy Saltsman guided those present on a tour of the facilities. The Pulaski County Revolving Loan Fund had helped to finance the development of the property.

Krysten Hinkle, Project Coordinator/Administrative Secretary Dave Zeltwanger, Executive Secretary pro tempore