

**Pulaski County
Community Development Commission
Strategic Visioning Committee**

Tuesday, 9 May 2022
Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex
Winamac, Indiana

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, 1 February 2022
Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex
Winamac, Indiana

Members present: President/Committee Chair Sheila Jimenez (Winamac);, County Councilor Kathleen Thompson, Lynn Johns (Francesville). Executive Director Nathan P. Origer.

Members absent: Membership Officer Kelsie Zellers [personal]; County Commissioner Maurice Loehmer; Bill Champion [business].

Guests present: Commission executive-board member Brandon DeLorenzo.

Call to Order

President Jimenez called the meeting to order at 5:30 *p.m.* The director noted the absence of a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

With no quorum present, approval of the previous meeting's minutes was postponed.

Strategic Plan Implementation

Community Foundation Aspirations-in-Action programming: The director reported on the progress made thus far by the broadband, housing, and downtown-development taskforces, highlighting that the Foundation had hired consultants for all three, and that plans were under development in each sector. He would soon be submitting the County's Broadband Ready Community application to the State, and multiple developers had been planning broadband investment in the community. Mr. Johns reported that a landowner with property near Francesville had expressed interest in potentially developing it into a residential neighborhood.

General plan review/discussion: The director reported briefly on the Mammoth and Moss Creek Solar projects, expressing hope that, if one or both were to move forward to development, the Council would allocate some of the economic-development payments to implementation of the strategic plan. He also noted that he anticipated holding his first community coffee hour and renewing one-on-one business-retention visits in the second quarter and reviving the Commission's newsletter in the third.

K.A.S. X., Institutional Capacity Building: The director reported that he had a potential part-time assistant lined up, but suggested that, in the long term, adding a full-time person in addition to the part-time role would be the minimal level of staffing necessary to implement the strategic plan effectively. Discussion ensued regarding Councilor Thompson's question about which responsibilities the director would surrender without sufficient staffing.

Director Origer then reviewed the types of statutory agencies established by the *Indiana Code* that would be worth reviewing for a potential future restructuring of the County's delivery of community-development programming: redevelopment commission, economic-development commission, and tourism commission, among others. Councilor Thompson enquired about local communities that have any of these entities; the director would report back on this at the next meeting.

Future of the Committee

Terms of service: President Jimenez, Councilor Thompson, and Mr. Johns all expressed interest in continuing on the committee, with the councilor noting that she was pleased to see synergies developing between the Commission's efforts and the Community Foundation's programming.

Adjournment

By consensus. 6:10 *p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan P. Origer,
Executive Director/Recording Secretary