

## WOOD RIVER VISION 2020

July 15, 2013

### MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Wood River Vision 2020 was held Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the City Council chambers. Members present were Tyler Doane, Greg Cramer, Joyce Willoughby, Jason Rotter and Pam Kjar. Brian Hayes was absent. Also attending the meeting was Chris Stewart.

Joyce Willoughby moved to approve the minutes of the June 3 meeting as presented. Jason Rotter seconded the motion. All aye.

Kjar presented an update on the pedestrian walkway project. She informed the Board that the project had been awarded two grants. The Wood River Community Centennial Foundation had approved a grant in the amount of \$4,991.00 to purchase concrete benches and old-fashioned lighting. The Grace Koepp Foundation had approved a \$4,000.00 grant request to assist with the gazebo acquisition. The Aesthetics/Beautification committee and its volunteers have logged a total of 209.5 work hours on the project to date.

Rotter reported on a number of items relating to the potential Wood River welcome sign project. Topics discussed included approval from property owners on both the east and west sides of Wood River, the new location for the Ministerial Association sign on Heritage Bank property and the State permit process. He had obtained ROW maps for potential locations to illustrate sign locations. Hayes had informed Rotter and Kjar that Dick Reeder, property owner to the east, believed the current sign was installed and owned by the Wood River Community Club. Rotter will contact Penny Volf, Community Club President, to determine if there will be a conflict with the new sign. Willoughby inquired if the City Water Tower Park on Highway 30 would serve as an alternate to the west location. Discussion regarding location ensued. It was the consensus of the Board present to pursue installing the sign on the corner of Hwy 11 and Hwy 30 (Double D Plumbing & Heating, Inc.) or the Mettenbrink property west of the overpass.

At this point, Chris Stewart, representing the Grace Koepp Foundation wished to inform the Board of the types of projects the Grace Koepp Foundation is interested in funding. He indicated that funds are still available for this calendar year, if the Board is interested in applying for a grant on this project. He also wished to stress that co-funding of projects would be appreciated, but they will entertain all requests. Prior to his departure, Willoughby questioned if the Foundation would consider "pledging" funds for a number of years on a single project. Stewart, using a municipal swimming pool or splash pad as an example, informed the Board that pledging of funds is a possibility. If Vision 2020 desires to pursue a pool project in Wood River, he stated some funds earmarked for a pool remain in the WR Community Centennial Foundation as well.

Discussion continued regarding construction of the signs. It was determined that the Board would rather look at several different types of signage before applying for grant funds. Rotter will coordinate efforts with Brian Hayes on this project. Some current signs given as examples included the Minden town sign and the newly installed signs at the Summerfield Estates subdivision in Grand Island.

Doane informed the group that the Community Needs Survey was still in the tabulation process at UNK. Doane reported that Bobbi Pettit of South Central Development District stated that survey results will be available soon. He was told that we had a good return rate from residents, approximately 75%. Pettit asked Doane to set a date for the town hall meeting. After discussion, it was determined that the town

hall meeting will be held August 21 at 7:30 pm in the Wood River High Theater, if available. The group then discussed areas and means to distribute news of the meeting to the public. It was suggested notices be posted at the golf course and post office. Joyce Willoughby, will contact Jenie Maloney to update the Vision 2020 Facebook page and the City's website. It was decided to begin advertising the meeting around the first of August. Doane added that SCEDD will again help with advertising the meeting.

Doane provided the Board information regarding the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Brownfield Project. He had been informed from SCEDD that funds are available to clean up contaminated areas along the Highway 30 corridor. The group discussed potential areas in the vicinity that may qualify for project funds. Those areas include the gas islands east of Ds Place, the old grocery store one block off of Highway 30 and the old store commonly known as Duchess's Corner.

Cramer reported that the new Community Hall bid was up for award on Tuesday. He indicated the project is within the allocated budgeted amount and when awarded, construction could begin.

There being no further business, Willoughby moved to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Kjar seconded the motion.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Tyler Doane, President

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Pam Kjar, Secretary