

**WOOD RIVER VISION 20/20
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 26, 2013**

The Wood River Board of Directors held their regular meeting at 5:30 pm on November, 26 2013 in the Council Chambers of the City of Wood River. Members present included Tyler Doane, Brian Hayes, Pam Kjar, Greg Cramer, Jason Rotter and Joyce Willoughby (late arrival). Public present was Heather Rotter.

President Doane gave the Board an update on the progress of the Housing Committee. He reviewed the updated housing information as presented by SCEDD. It indicated a need for additional senior housing, assisted living and single family dwellings. Doane informed those present that a study session will be held January 2, 2014. Members of the City Council, Housing Authority, Vision 20/20 Board, Edie Johnson and interested public will be invited to the study session. At this time the Housing Committee has not determined their agenda for the meeting, but it is likely that Metzner Development of Central City will present information regarding the utilization of TIF funding to construct restricted income units. He indicated that it may be necessary for Wood River to complete a full Housing Study. Financial sources, such as funds generated by LB840 i.e., would be needed to construct housing that is not income restricted. The committee has also been discussing the possibility of using SCEDD to help clean up local lots to free up building space.

Kjar updated the Board that the Community Improvement group will be meeting after the first of the year to discuss pursuing establishment of LB840 funds or implementation of sales tax. A brief discussion following regarding the need to designate a use for funds collected thru LB840. Doane added that Bobbi Pettit, SCEDD is willing to provide any assistance or clarification of LB840 funds and sales taxes.

As no representative of the Business Committee was available, Kjar presented information she had received. The Business Committee is currently investigating the possibility of receiving grant funds to improve existing day care facilities within the community. The grant funds would be used by facilities to meet current state requirements. Doane clarified that the funding is USDA Rural Development Business Enterprise Grants. The Committee may work with the Midwest Childcare Association. Funds could also be used to recruit, train and help licensed daycare in the area. A study of daycare needs within the surrounding areas would need to be completed. Cramer indicated that Loup City was currently lending their LB840 funds at low interest rates to area businesses for re-development. It is an avenue that can be explored by the Business Committee.

The Board discussed the possible demolition of the building on the corner of 9th and Main Streets. Cramer informed the group that the City is currently negotiating with the owner to demolish the existing building. He did inform the Board that the building does not share a common wall with the adjacent building. The lot could then be sold by the City for future development. Cramer stated the City owns the vacant lot west of the Post Office, and it is for sale as well.

Hayes reported on the progress of the welcome signs. The Committee had submitted and been approved for a grant from the Grace Koeppe Foundation in the amount of \$15,000.00. The Wood River Centennial Foundation took no action on the grant request submitted. He informed the Board that they plan to present the project to the City Council for approval. The City will need to install electricity, assume financial responsibility of the electric bills and upkeep of the signs. The signs and landscaping are projected to cost around \$30,000.00. The Koeppe Foundation needs to disperse their funds by December 31, 2013, so they will issue the funds to the Board of Trust. Rotter

stated that they will ask the Centennial Foundation to reconsider the grant request in February. It was discussed that the delay in completion of the pedestrian walkway project is affecting funding on the sign project. A motion was made by Kjar and seconded by Cramer to proceed with presentation of the project to the City Council. All aye.

Kjar reported that gazebo is to be placed by December 18, 2013. Cramer stated that the electric and light installation is being coordinated by the City. The gazebo and lights will be decorated for Christmas. The sprinklers and sod will be completed next spring.

Doane indicated that he had scheduled an appointment with the City Attorney to continue working on the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of Vision 20/20. He indicated there are a few items within the Articles that need to be addressed, including a list of incorporators and a list of directors. It was determined that the names of the Board will be listed as incorporators. Vision 20/20 will continue to use the physical address of the City of Wood River.

Willoughby presented her report on the youth committee. She reported on the Health Academy and the Business Academy offered thru CCC for students interested in pursuing further education in those fields. She indicated the committee has identified a need to provide opportunities for students not interested in pursuing college studies. She indicated the Committee may discuss with area businesses the possibility of job shadowing opportunities. She reported our school administration had contacted the Career Pathways Academy in Grand Island. At this time, the Academy is not able to accept more students. The Committee, School Board and school Administration is committed to finding opportunities for all students.

Doane reported that he and Kjar are now administrators of the Facebook page. Rotter will be added as an administrator as well. Doane stated that the mass email option is no longer available to us. He informed the Board of options available to send mass emails through Jenie Maloney's site. Although we were sending the email through her server, the email would show it as sent by the Board member and replies would be received by same. Discussion followed regarding access to the mailing list, the need for an email address for Wood River 20/20. Heather and Jason Rotter will discuss with Jenie the possibility of moving the mailing list into a Gmail account. Access could be given to each Board member.

Terms of the current Board members were reviewed. Doane is now a three-year term member, since assuming the Presidency. Willoughby motioned to renew Hayes and Rotter to a three year term. Cramer seconded the motion. All aye. Doane thanked both members for renewing their term.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

Approved: _____

Tyler Doane, President

Pam Kjar, Secretary