

**WOOD RIVER VISION 20/20
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 23, 2017**

The quarterly meeting of the Wood River Vision 20/20 Board of Directors meeting was held October 23, 2017, 5:30 p.m. at the Wood River Civic Center. Board members Tyler Doane, Greg Cramer, Brian Hayes, Sara Arnett and Pam Kjar were present. Board member Joyce Willoughby was absent. Local residents Mariah Leisher and Elizabeth Troyer-Miller along with Nebraska Department of Economic Development representative, Kelly Gewecke were also in attendance.

The first order of business was the approval of the July 10, 2017 meeting. Greg Cramer moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Sara Arnett. All aye, motion carried.

The next item for discussion was the progress on acquiring new daycare options in Wood River. Chelsie Lammers, committee chairman, indicated that she needed more support from community members. Leisher provided information regarding the city of Henderson opening an in-home 2 day care to begin addressing the need of the community. They may look at expansion to a full day care center facility at a future date. She also reminded the Board of the facility located in Shickley, which is run by the local school district. Lammers questioned if the facility accepted infants and Leisher informed her it did. Hayes questioned what assistance is available to someone wanting to start a facility. Gewecke stated there are multiple sources for assistance, such as grants, to help establish a center. Gewecke provided information regarding the day care center in Central City and suggested Lammers contact Kiki Fastbender, director of the Chamber of Commerce. She also stated it would be beneficial to speak with representatives from Red Cloud also.

After much discussion it was determined to consolidate data from the last community survey with a current survey (powered thru Survey Monkey) of parents with small children in the community. Chelsie Doane and Arnett will meet with the school administration to discuss options and enlist ideas for solutions to the daycare problem. It is hoped to have the survey results back before Thanksgiving and presented to school officials in January 2018.

Arnett reported on the Downtown Revitalization program, we are in the planning process. Cramer reported that the City of Wood River is currently revising their redevelopment plan. It is almost to the point for submittal to the Regional Planning Commission. Cramer informed the Board three properties adjacent to the city limits will be added to the City boundaries. This will allow additional property to be blighted, meeting the qualifications for future prospective TIF financing.

Arnett told the Board that the Vision Business Committee was meeting the last week of October to go over their progress and begin planning more projects. Gewecke had informed Arnett of sources, such as REAP or UNK, available to help local business to increase their web presence.

Tyler Doane requested news of the Housing Committee. Cramer reported that the lot on 13th Street and Highway 11 has been cleaned up and is ready to be advertised for bids. There are several prospective owners for the property. Arnett indicated that SCEDD is doing a final accounting of our OOR expenditures. It is anticipated that another residence may be accepted into the program, bringing the total number to 14. Gewecke complimented the group on the progress made since the formation of the board in 2013.

Kjar reported on the upcoming Holiday Lights at Library Park/Santa visit scheduled for Saturday, December 2. She stated that the funds of \$150 remaining from the original grant will be used to purchase an additional six strands of lights. Kjar mentioned that donations would be accepted to continue to increase the number of strands for the project.

Doane informed the Board that Willoughby has tendered her resignation effectively immediately. Kjar indicated that she does not intend to extend her Board term when it expires in January. Kjar had asked Elizabeth Troyer-Miller to attend this meeting, as she believed she would be a good selection to the Board. Troyer-Miller did have some questions regarding the duties of the Board. Doane encouraged her to think over her decision and let the Board know if she is willing to serve.

A discussion regarding this year's Paint-A-Thon project followed.

Cramer reported on the improvements to be performed to the Wood River ball fields, located on east 13th Street. Grass, infields, and trees are part of the project. He also gave an update to the pool project.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held January 22, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the Wood River Civic Center.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Approved:

Tyler Doane, President

Secretary