

Wabasso EDA  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, May 8, 2019 5 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Eichten with Board Members Karl Guetter, Rachel Ingebretson and Carole Remiger present. Chuck Robasse was unable to attend.

Also present were Curt Trost, Pat Dingels and Mary Smith.

Minutes of the April 3 meeting were approved on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Ingebretson.

Eichten-yes, Guetter-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Curt Trost spoke to the board regarding the Serenity Suites option. At this time, Serenity Suites is not in a position to accept the option terms financially. The board is interested in the property next to the facility. The board is asking for the EDA to wait a year to a year and a half until the facility is in a better position. The assisted living portion is full with 11 residents and they have just opened the memory care side. The memory care rooms will also be available to those who have no need of kitchen facilities. The EDA agreed to contact Serenity Suites again in a year.

Advanced Health and Safety will inspect the property the EDA has discussed purchasing for asbestos at a cost of \$300.00. If asbestos is found, then they will provide an estimate of costs to clean it up. Making an offer to the owner was discussed with Board Member Ingebretson pointing out the EDA already owns property on which additional townhomes could be built without incurring additional preparation costs. The City Clerk will draw up a letter to the owner with an offer from the EDA. A motion was made for the EDA to pay for the inspection, and will offer \$5,000.00 in exchange for a clear title and seller payment of asbestos cleanup, if any is found.

Eichten-yes, Guetter-yes, Ingebretson-no, Remiger-yes.

The Clerk spoke to the board about a possible new loan software called Lending Pro. The software would provide for the easy calculation of interest and principal in payments as received, can provide monthly statements that can be mailed out, reports that can be given to the EDA that will show exactly where the loans stand to name a few of the features. The software costs \$395.00 onetime fee for up to 20 active loans, \$495.00 for up to 40 active loans and an unlimited version for \$995.00 with each having the first year of tech support included and \$75.00 per year after that. A motion was made by Ingebretson, seconded by Guetter to purchase the 40 loan version at a cost of \$495.00.

Eichten-yes, Guetter-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Pat Dingels mentioned several different items to the board. The first is the need for all government websites to be fully accessible by law. She told the board that gov office is a fairly inexpensive web site platform is user friendly.

She also brought up that this week is National Small Business week. The Eda could consider recognizing the small businesses in our community and their importance to the community in some way at any point in time.

The RADC is willing to do visits to some of the small businesses with a questionnaire to help find out what their needs are and how those needs might be met. It would be good to have an EDA member go with Pat for these talks. Pat Eichten suggested it may be something they could partner with the commercial club on as well since there are a limited number of EDA members with each having limits on time they are available.

Pat Dingels also provided a supply of free Minnesota Grown directories to have available in the office. These list growers and farmers markets throughout the state. If there are growers in the area that would like to be included in the directories they can contact Minnesota Grown for more information.

Pat Eichten mentioned that he had been approached by Chad Altermatt about having a turnaround area built at the north end of Elm Street. This has been discussed by the city council previously and it was decided not to do so as it would be costly and would extend into the lots at the north end of the street.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Ingebretson.

Eichten-yes, Guetter-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Bills in the amount of \$2,101.25 were approved for payment on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Ingebretson.

Eichten-yes, Guetter-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.