

Wabasso EDA
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 6, 2021
5:00 pm

The meeting was called to order at 5pm with Board Member Pat Eichten, Karl Guetter, Chuck Robasse and Steve Burns in attendance. Member Jeff Olson was absent. Also present were EDA Director Larry Thompson, and Pat Dingels.

The agenda was accepted with the following items added:

1. Possible RLF request
2. 5-plex landscaping
3. Amazon delivery service

The minutes of the September 1, 2021, Regular meeting was approved on a motion by Robasse, second by Burns.

Eichten – Yes; Guetter – Yes; Robasse - yes; Burns – yes.

Duplex – Brief discussion regarding timing of plans and financing.

Eastvail Real Estate Signs – Sign proofs reviewed. Signs should be installed in the next 2 weeks.

MIF RLF Program. Ms. Dingels noted she had found the files authorizing the federal and state RLF funds along with the regulations. A general discussion was held on how to proceed. It was agreed that Ms. Dingels and Mr. Thompson would review the documents and regulations and report back to board as to eligible expenses and uses.

Strategic Plan. The board reviewed the following action steps.

1. Revitalizing the commercial club
2. Retaining and expanding existing business -surveys
3. Business opportunities along the Highway 68 corridor.

The board discussion mostly focused on Business Expansion and Retention survey and what would be the best approach. The board indicated that the number of survey questions should be narrowed down to 10 or less and focus on future plans and what is standing in the way or what the businesses need. It was suggested that rather than doing a formal interview staff should focus on using Survey Monkey.

5-Plex Landscaping – Mr. Thompson noted that Paul Plaetz was resigning, and the EDA would need to hire a contractor to finish up the landscaping rather than city staff.

RLF Loan – Mr. Thompson noted that a local business had shown interest in applying for an RLF loan.

Mr. Eichten and Mr. Thompson noted they had been contacted by a local representative of Amazon that was looking at using local businesses for delivering package – they had given the person some leads.

Motion by Burns, second by Guetter to accept the Treasurers report.

Eichten – Yes; Guetter – Yes; Robasse - yes; Burns – yes.

Motion by Robasse, second by Guetter to approve the bills totaling \$2,856.67(Dewey Street) and \$2,600.00 (General). (Amended to add Redwood Gazette - \$390.00 (General).

Eichten – Yes; Guetter – Yes; Robasse - yes; Burns – yes.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Larry Thompson
EDA Director