



MINUTES

Newaygo Economic Development Organization Meeting

July 16, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hirdes called the Newaygo Economic Development Organization (NEDO) Meeting to order at 11:05 am at The Stream located at 1 State Rd., Newaygo MI 49337. Kim Goodin acted as recording secretary.

Roll Call: Present: Ron Armstrong, Matthew Boynton, Ed Fedell, Jason Harris, Morgan Heinzman, Del Hirdes, Steven Radtke,
Absent: George Heartwell, Cory Nelson, George Suchy

Others Present: Jon Schneider, Colleen Lynema, John Buckley Jr., Lee Black, Dan Wheat, Melissa Fish, Chris Ortwein, Heather Allen, Kim Goodin

Motion by Armstrong, second by Radtke to approve the 01/17/2020 NEDO Meeting Minutes. AIF/MC

Motion by Fedell, second by Heinzman to re-appoint Hirdes as NEDO Chair and Armstrong as NEDO Vice-Chair. AIF/MC

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Schneider stated that he and Julie Burrell had recently met with a developer and the developer asked what the City would like to see in the Newaygo community in the future. He went through a list of ideas that had been discussed at the previous Council, Planning, PSD, and TIFA meetings. NEDO Board and group discussions included: family-style restaurants, lodging, conference/community center, and recreational activities. The group discussed projects that have been started and need completion, and the importance of community engagement and support. Board Members spoke about the need for volunteers, list of projects that need volunteers, and managing volunteers.

Schneider gave a recap of projects that have occurred in the City over the recent years. He gave an update on Christian Healthcare Center and Biggy Coffee. Group discussed Christian Healthcare Center mission, services offered and monthly subscription prices.

Schneider discussed potential future projects. Ortwein gave an update on Muskegon River Holdings Property and Allen discussed opportunity they are exploring for the third floor of Muskegon River Inn.

Schneider shared the new City logo that was chosen by City Council and stated that the City worked with a local vendor, Third Coast Creative, and is working to get the logo licensed.

Lynema gave an update on the Social Zone stating that the Chamber had recently received a grant for the Social Zone area. She discussed what the grant dollars could be spent on and said they hope to have the Social Zone open in October.

WALKABILITY PLANS

Schneider showed a map of Marshall Trail and group discussed options of expanding the trail in the future.

Schneider displayed a drawing that had recently been submitted of potentially adding additional parking at Riverfront Park II and moving the fish heads to Riverfront Park I and creating a splash pad. Board briefly discussed if this made sense for the community.

HOUSING AND RECREATION

Schneider gave an update on River Hills Estates Phase II Project, River Run Center Apartments, and Brookhaven Estates. Group discussed the different levels of housing needed in the community.

Schneider gave an update on the Disc Golf Course stating that this was a collaborative project between the County, City, TIFA and NCRA. He said that seven holes should be complete in the coming weeks with the remaining holes being completed in 2022.

UPDATES

Hirdes gave an update on Newaygo County Economic Development activities that Julie Burrell had sent to him. The update included Entrepreneur Support activities and Newaygo County Tourism updates.

Lynema gave an update on a collaboration project between various chambers in the area that the Fremont Area Community Foundation funded. She stated that the River Country Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Dinner Meeting was on July 22nd and that the CEO from Johnson & Johnson would be the keynote speaker.

OLD BUSINESS

BOARD AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Motion by Heinzman, second by Boynton to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 pm. AIF/MC.

Kim Goodin, Recording Secretary