

EAST BETHEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING

November 16, 2015

The East Bethel Economic Development Authority (EDA) met for a regular meeting on November 16, 2015 at 7:00 P.M at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Butler* Doug Welter Julie Lux Steve Voss
* Chairperson Brian Bezanson Brian Mundle

MEMBERS EXCUSED: John Landwehr

ALSO PRESENT: Colleen Winter, Community Development Director
Jack Davis, City Administrator

1. **Call to Order** Mr Butler called the Economic Development Authority meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Adopt Agenda** **Mr Bezanson motioned to adopt the agenda. Ms. Lux seconded. All members were in favor; motion carried.**
3. **Approve October 19, 2015 Meeting Minutes** **Mr. Bezanson motioned to approve the minutes with the following changes, Note that Mr. Jack Davis was not present. Move to strike the first sentence under item #4. Mr. Voss seconded; all others in favor. Motion carried.**
4. **Business Recruitment Strategy** EDA continued ongoing discussions about Business recruitment and attraction. Action items and discussion included:
 - Develop Marketing plan
 - Develop Communication plan
 - Identify businesses and meet with them one on one
 - How do we as a community compete?
 - Do we have what businesses/developers are looking for?
5. **Chamber Report** Mr. Butler reported that a ribbon cutting was held at Plow World who has joined the Chamber and moved into a new facility. Also reported that the Chamber will be hosting their annual meeting and holiday party on Dec. 11, 2015 at Route 65. Officer elections for the new year will take place at the Annual meeting.
6. **Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Update** Mr. Welter reported that 43 business interviews were completed and that the Leadership team along with a couple of Task Force members will be attending the Campus review meeting at the U of MN of Dec. 16th. The Task Force Retreat will take place sometime in late February/early March. The issues that have arisen to date based on the interviews are Broadband (lack of), and Workforce (lack of skilled workers). Very encouraged by participation and looking forward to next steps.
7. **City Council Report** Mr. Mundle reported that the City Council will be discussing a donation policy. Also reported that the City of East Bethel has been awarded a Heart Safe designation. Acknowledged the hard work and efforts on Troy Lachinski (East Bethel Fire Dept.) for making that project happen. Reported that the City has adopted a Rental Policy for residential rental property in the City.

7. City Council Report, cont.

Mr. Voss announced the Town Hall meeting this Thursday, Nov. 19th. Encouraged attendance.

8. Other Business

None

9. Adjournment

Motion Bezanson, second Welter to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Colleen Winter
Community Development Director