

Flandreau Development Corporation

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2018

Board members in attendance included Carleen Wild, Kelley Ramsdell, Dan Sutton, Scott Hargens, Jason Unger, Jessica Hovland.

Others present included Stacy Suedkamp, Brad Bjerke, Karla Bjerke, Kristin Britton, Mayor Mark Bonrud.

Meeting called to order at 5:34PM.

Jason moved to approve the agenda; Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Jason moved to approve past minutes; Kelley seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

President's Report – Carleen Wild

Carleen gave highlights from the past month and upcoming events:

- There are 3 speakers we are anticipating will present at the Annual Meeting as part of a panel discussion; the Annual Meeting will be held on April 5, 2018, at the Royal River Casino.
- FDC sponsored a community listening session at Bean and Vine on January 24; turnout was good from community and various representatives of governing bodies in the community; discussion focused on the community's interest in the process of hiring a new city administrator, the upcoming election cycle, community involvement, and areas where the community expects to see improvements
- FDC is scheduling additional informal listening sessions for community participation on the following dates: February 12, 6:00PM at the Tribal Community Center; February 19-21, time TBD, John's Place; additional sessions TBD
- FDC followed up the Wellmark Healthy Hometown initiative from the January meeting with an additional meeting open to the community on January 31; the meeting was well attended, the exercises were well received, Wellmark will follow up with a suggested community plan, and a walking audit of Flandreau is tentatively scheduled for April 23
- The City Council has indicated it has a hiring committee for the new city administrator to replace Don Whitman; FDC has approached the City Council on numerous occasions to participate in and on the hiring committee; Carleen read a statement from Paul Lewis about the importance of having the FDC involved in the hiring process; Carleen indicated that her discussions with City Council members have been encouraging and that a vote would be held at the next City Council meeting to determine whether the City Council will include one or more FDC board members on the hiring committee; all members present from the City Council (Mayor Mark Bonrud, Brad Bjerke, Dan Sutton) agreed that this topic would be discussed at the next City Council meeting; Stacy Suedkamp

commented that the community should be involved and that community members need to do a better job of attending meetings and calling their representatives to discuss concerns and interests

- FDC completed and submitted, via First District, its application for State funds toward the hiring of an Economic Development Director position
- Discussion about the need for increased accessibility throughout the community, including FDC; the listening session indicated that there is a lack of online presence for community members to be a part of city meetings and aware of city events, and other than the newspaper, which does not reach as many young families, and Bean and Vine's live video feeds, community members are missing out on information
- Kelley Ramsdell indicated she has done some research into live audio/video equipment to broadcast FDC meetings, including a microphone, tripod, and iPad that could be used by the future Economic Development Director position, if approved; Scott Hargens asked if the cost of the equipment could be rolled into the grant money requested for the Economic Development Director position, Kelley answered "No" because the expense would already be incurred before the grant was approved; Jason Unger asked if the city website or FDC Facebook page could be used as the host for broadcasting the feeds, Kelley answered "Yes"

Motion by Scott Hargens to authorize up to \$1,500.00 for purchasing audio/video broadcasting equipment; Dan Sutton seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously

Membership Committee – Scott Hargens

Scott gave a report on tasks that the Membership Committee has worked on:

- Scott created a report of all current FDC members and divided the members up into groups among each of the Board members, indicating that each Board member should visit with the members in their respective groups and discuss renewing membership; various talking points about FDC highlights and plans were included
- Scott created a report of businesses in the community that are not or have never been members of FDC, and requested that FDC board members reach out to those businesses about becoming members for 2018
- Carleen asked that all visits and contact be made with the members and non-members by the next regularly scheduled FDC meeting

Suspended Rules for Additional Agenda Item

Dan requested to suspend rules to request the FDC's consideration for action on a request from the Crystal Theater for funds for the 2018 season.

- Dan indicated that the Crystal Theater makes this request to the FDC each year, that he did not request that the item be put on the agenda in advance, but that the fund levels are \$50 for season ticket holders, \$250 for sponsors, but that the FDC has historically, generously, given \$1,000
- Jason Unger questioned if Dan would be abstaining from any potential vote due to his involvement on the Crystal Theater Board, and if so, whether the FDC would still have proper quorum to take action

- Kelley indicated that she and Jessica Hovland have a meeting scheduled to meet with the City finance staff to review FDC's finances, and that she would propose delaying consideration of any requests for funds until the review is complete, and perhaps after a budget is completed
- Carleen declared no action would be taken

Scott Hargens left the meeting.

Economic Development Committee Report – Carleen Wild

Carleen gave a report on tasks that the Economic Development Committee has worked on:

- Shawn Jaacks ordered signage for FDC's vacant lot
- The paperwork for funding the Economic Development Director has been submitted
- Christina and Danny Schmidt are new owners of Mad Mary's; Carleen discussed having FDC commemorate the new ownership and honor the previous owners
- A family from Faulkton purchased First Flandreau Insurance Agency
- Flandreau Bakery's owner is healing and progressing well after surgery
- Kiko's Mexican Restaurant purchased BJ's Bar and Grill and will be working on moving into the new space, giving up their current space; Dan added that Kiko's is adding two new business partners/employees from Georgia in anticipation of the move to the new space
- Mayor Mark Bonrud suggested that FDC should make introductions of new business owners to the community and vice versa

Housing Committee Report – Carleen Wild

Carleen gave a report on updates from the Housing Committee:

- Based on community discussions, housing continues to be a concern
- A new physician at Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe's clinic may be interested in housing
- Dan commented that he has received interest from multiple people about Southview Heights lots, and continues to get calls about available real estate in the community

Chambers/Events Committee Report – Jessica Hovland

Carleen gave a report on updates from the Chambers/Events Committee:

- Legislative Cracker Barrel is scheduled for February 10, 9:00AM, at Flandreau Public School elementary school cafeteria; hosted by Rick Weber
- Reference back to the various listening sessions and participation with Wellmark
- Board members up for re-election: Shawn Jaacks, Jessica Hovland, Ardene Boysen

Treasurer's Report – Jessica Hovland

Jessica gave a report on updates regarding FDC's finances:

- No new reports on current finances or budgets
- Jessica and Kelley Ramsdell will meet with Karen at the City office to review FDC's finances and how the City office manages its various accounts

Carleen moved to adjourn at 6:29pm.