

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE

ECONOMIC **D**EVELOPMENT **A**UTHORITY

MINUTES **August 9, 2005**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority was held at City Hall, 7516 80th Street South, Cottage Grove, Minnesota on the 9th day of August 2005.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by EDA President Shiely.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Myron Bailey, EDA Vice President
Glen Kleven, EDA Member
Sandy Shiely, EDA President
Gerry Weingartner, EDA Secretary/Treasurer

Members Absent: Al Boche, EDA Member
Mike Wennen, EDA Member
Jim Wolcott, EDA Member

Others Present: Howard Blin, Community Development Director
Joe Fischbach, Management Analyst
Tom Kaiser, Bulletin Newspaper
Jessica Sandin, Management Analyst
Ryan Schroeder, EDA Executive Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Glen Klevan moved to approve the July 12, 2005 Economic Development Authority Minutes. EDA Member Bailey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Schroeder noted an article that appeared in the Star Tribune on August 3, 2005 from an interview and tour of the community provided by Mayor Shiely and Community Development Director Howard Blin.

He informed the EDA that the City hosted a neighborhood meeting posing questions on the setbacks in the Industrial Park and the road alignment of the future extension of 97th Street. While over 90 addresses were noticed only three persons attended. The recommendation from the neighborhood meeting and staff is placing the road roughly 420 feet distant from the property line is preferable as it would tend to realize 30,000-50,000 square foot buildings. In addition, consideration of a 100 foot setback for both parking and building would tend to result in side loaded buildings and would be preferable. Discussion ensued and the EDA members agree with the road placement and setback recommendations.

Schroeder also mentioned the CP Rail/Lyman Lumber proposal that was addressed to the City Council last month and provided an exhibit of the site layout proposed.

Ryan Schroeder informed the EDA of a cable commission study of interconnecting city building and/or the industrial park with fiber. At this point, he is not recommending that we pursue either development option.

Mr. Schroeder presented the draft plan of the Oakwood Park redevelopment. The thoughts behind the plan are to make Oakwood Park a destination and leverage activities occurring within the park and commercial district. EDA members agreed they like the layout but had some concerns. First, the Frisbee golf course should be considered carefully for possible continuance in the park. Second, Bailey expressed his preference for the road extending Hardwood Court to be a public road and not a private road. The members agree they like the idea of tying the commercial use to the park but their concern regarding the lot north of Ruby Tuesday is limiting the use of a building on the City owned site and competing with existing multi-tenant retail nearby.

Schroeder concluded the development update with a mention that construction continues on the Grove Plaza outlot building, Oak Park Commons, and the Kellison building on West Point Douglas.

EAST RAVINE

Howard Blin updated the EDA on the major elements of the East Ravine project. The East Ravine Comprehensive Plan amendment has recently been submitted to the Metropolitan Council and a formal public hearing is scheduled for August 22. Assuming a complete review by the Metropolitan Council, the City Council will be presented with the final East Raving Master Plan on September 21 for review and final approval.

Howard Blin asked the EDA if they would consider rezoning the Cottage View site next year if a proposal met all expectations. Discussion ensued on the Cottage View site development occurring sooner than the projected 5-7 years. EDA members agreed they would consider development at the Cottage View site if specific standards were in place and the right use came along.

TCCCF Update

The EDA Members were informed the Twin Cities Community Capital Fund has become operational. All were provided a copy of the loan application, brochure, and list of participating cities. As a member of TCCCF, the City of Cottage Grove is now ready and able to make loans.

GATEWAY FENCING UPDATE

Jessica Sandin reviewed the status of the project, stating that the paved trail is near completion in Oakwood Park and the fence project is anticipated to begin construction.

2005 GOLF OUTING UPDATE

Sandin updated the EDA on the status of the Golf Outing on August 16th and stated 140 people and 21 sponsors have registered.

CALENDAR

The EDA members were reminded of upcoming meetings and events.

MARKETING CAMPAIGN

EDA members were provided a copy of the new advertisement to be placed in the September edition of the Real Estate Journal.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS ITEMS

EDA member Shiely mentioned there have been temporary signs, both neon and human, in the Gateway North area and recommended the signs be removed.

Ryan Schroeder informed the EDA that we are working on a joint project with US Bank to construct a monument sign and new retaining wall yet this construction season.

ADJOURN

Gerry Weingartner made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Glen Kleven. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jessica Sandin
Management Analyst