

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8TH, 2008

The January 8th Arlington EDA meeting called to order at 7:05 a.m.

Members present: Rosenfeld, Sorenson, Noack, Lundstrom

Members absent: Councilmember Griep, Councilmember Vrklan

Also present: Director Schultz

Nominations for 2008 officer positions were: President-Mike Feterl, VP-Larry Sorenson, Treasurer-Trisha Rosenfeld, Secretary-Vicki Pomplun. Nominations unanimously approved.

Minutes from the October 9th 2007 meeting approved as presented.

Financial reports were reviewed with discussion and questions.

Technical Services has indicated that Arlington will be TSE's base for the near and far future. Arlington is still very willing to participate in incentivizing construction of a new building to meet TSE's future needs.

Arlington Comp Plan is moving forward. The EDA will be asked during the planning process to determine where a future industrial/commercial development area might be located either adjacent to or away from the railroad. Director Schultz detailed conversations he's had with individuals concerning the location and viability of a proposed wind tower and how that may impact future commercial development immediate to the tower.

Member Sorenson suggested that the railroad authority be consulted during the comp plan process and in particular during the locating of a commercial/industrial development.

Small Cities Development grant progress was discussed and the fact that there are 2 remaining commercial loans available. The current commercial target area and the possibility of expanding the area was also talked about. Limits by MN DEED to expand this area was also reviewed. Director Schultz offered to craft a memo from the EDA to DEED indicating our wish to expand the target area. He will share this with EDA President Mike Feterl before sending on to DEED.

Golden Hearts participating in the EDA revolving loan fund program was questioned. Director Schultz indicated that he reminded Kicker's of their participation during their past project and offered that there was funding available for the current expansion. No further interest was expressed by Kicker's to participate.

Cemstone buildings demolition and possible redevelopment of their property was discussed. United Farmers Coop is also considering expanding outside the Arlington city limits and the possibility of redevelopment of this area may exist in the future.

EDA co-participation with the Arlington Chamber of Commerce in "downtown projects" was talked about but needs to be tabled until the Chamber is organized for 2008.

Additional restaurant possibilities in Arlington were also discussed.

Noack inquired about the hotel development and the possibility of using Arlington-based, private local funding. Springfield, MN has done this with Microtel hotels and it seems to have worked fairly well although there were management issues to start with.

Quarterly meetings were agreed on with the next meeting to be held on April 8th, 2008 at the Technology Conference Center.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 a.m.