Harwinton Economic Development Commission

January 14, 2015, Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:35PM. Commissioners present: Steven Criss, John DiCarlo, Donna Groccia-Lubik, Kevin Moran, Terri Ruot, Thomas Schoenemann, and Jonathan Sederquist.

Motion made, seconded, voted on, and passed to adopt the agenda as revised.

Motion made, seconded, voted on, and passed to accept November's minutes, as submitted.

Comments from the Chair: Tom indicated there were two telephone number changes to the Directory and that he will email all businesses in the listing requesting any and all appropriate updates to their listing. Included with that submissions, will be a request to invite other business owners to join the Directory.

Tom welcomed Kevin Moran, our newest commissioner, to the EDC.

Old Business: All agreed to change the meeting dates, of second Tuesday of each month, to the third Tuesday of each month. Time will remain at 6:30PM. Tom to submit the revisions to the Town.

The EDC's proposed Tax Incentive Program Ordinance will be up for adoption at the next town meeting. John DiCarlo, EDC Vice Chair will speak on our behalf and respond to questions and comments from the floor. Also, prior to meeting, John will inquire as to the number of existing properties in town which could be potentially eligible for this program.

Jonathan suggested that we, as the EDC, reach out to the larger taxpayers in town to assure their attraction to the town is concrete and long term. Discussion followed.

Steve Criss presented a mock-up of our town brochure. The size of 11x17 and the color and format was discussed. Steve also indicated that a map would be placed inside with attractions, events, and points of interest.

We discussed our proposed Outstanding Business Award. Tom will approach the Harwinton Outstanding Citizen Award committee to solidify whether we can piggy-back their April award dinner at the Fairview Farm Golf Course. We anticipate that we would need to spend \$100 for a plaque and we would need to secure a citation from the state. John will prepare a news release, indicating that we are accepting nominations, with our list of criteria, and requesting nominations, supported by 300 words or less.

Motion, made, seconded, voted on, and passed for Tom to spend \$32.50 for printing of 50 copies of the Harwinton Business Directory. Prior to disbursing the funds, he will check with Town Hall to ensure we are following protocol.

New Business: Tom distributed the town's regulations regarding home based businesses. Discussion followed and further discussion was tabled to next meeting,

Tom distributed Mike Criss' budget request for 2015-16 and ask that we consider for next meeting.

Public Participation: None

Commissioners unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna M. Groccia-Lubik, Secretary

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