

Approved 6/3/21

Lanesboro Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 6, 2021 11:00 a.m.
Via Zoom and In Person Council Chambers

Present: Phil Dybing, Elaine Edwards, Joe Goetzke, and Cathy Enerson

Absent: None

Visitors: Andrezej Zalinski, Sarah Peterson, Kara Maloney, Bill Ferrie, Megan Weilandt, Michele Peterson and Darla Taylor

Member Edwards called the Regular Meeting of the Lanesboro Economic Development Authority to order at 11:00 a.m.

- A. **Agenda:** Member Goetzke motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of June Meeting Schedule. Member Dybing seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. **Approval of the Minutes:** Member Dybing motioned to approve the minutes from April 1, 2021 as presented. Member Goetzke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Regular Business:

A. Updates:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** The EDA operating fund has a balance of \$17,728.99 The Loan fund is currently at \$26,677.47 with all loans current.
2. **City/P&Z/HPC/LPU:** Administrator Peterson noted the WWTF project is moving along. The Dam project is completed and was a bit over budget, so some wish list items were not done. The painting and maintenance continues before the busy season. Two new lodging licenses were issued to new owners. A portable restroom will be placed in the Parkway Lots. The P&Z will have a public hearing on May 12 to discuss a possible home occupation.
3. **Chamber of Commerce:** New event cards and guides are printed and available. The area around the Visitor's Center is being cleaned up and some gravel added with cooperation from the DNR. They have also installed a new bulletin board.
4. **Lanesboro Business Update:** Possible use of Capron's Window for display and advertising of the special events or stay safe. Granny's celebrating 6years in business. New owners at Coffee Street Inn and Grandma's.
5. **School Board:** Sarah Peterson shared that events are being planned including a choir concert this evening, prom May 15, and graduation June 6. Construction is nearing completion, and tours will be available once school is out for the summer. A vaccine clinic for 16-18 year olds was held. There is a job opening for a Daycare Director.
6. **Lanesboro Arts:** Gateway Park electricity has been installed for the concert series.

- B. **Director's Report:** Director Cathy Enerson shared that the CEDA annual meeting will be held on June 10. She also noted that an AARP grant for \$4500 was requested to help bring mental health education to

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Lanesboro. Additional notes were included in the directors report and in the packet. A motion by Member Joe Goetzke to hire Megan Weilandt as the summer intern at \$500 per month and Kara Malony as the intern supervisor at \$250 per month for the stay safe project was made. Motion was seconded by Member Dybing. Motion carried all in favor. Additionally a motion was made by Member Edwards to send a letter of intent to CEDA for the Deed small cities block grant. The motion was seconded by Member Dybing. Motion carried all in favor.

C. New Business:

- 1. Stay Safe Grant Applications:** A motion was made by Member Goetzke to approve the two Bunge Stay Safe Grant applications. Motion was seconded by Member Dybing. Motion carried all in favor. It was noted that the funds will be used to replace BBD tents that were damaged in 2020.
- 2. Community Block Grant:** A grant possibility for broadband, Covid 19, and rehabilitation projects was presented by Director Enerson. A possible need for improving shared heat and air conditioning sources in buildings was considered. Due to the requirements and timelines no action was taken.
- 3. First time home buyer incentive:** Currently the process of benchmarking other local communities is underway. The Housing Group will present ideas in the future for incentives to draw people to Lanesboro. Director Enerson noted that first time home buyer incentives from Bluff Country HRA include \$17,000 for closing costs if income is below \$105,000. A LIVE, PLAY, WORK website is in the works and nearly complete. Items to be completed include a list of rental properties and the new housing incentive that will be offered once it is established.
- 4. Blue Hotel Loan Application:** Bill Ferrie owner of the Blue Hotel Property in Lanesboro has made an application to the EDA for a loan of \$50,000 to improve the 1st floor retail space. The space will need water and septic line repairs as well as the construction of the retail area. Stage 2 of the project would include exterior work on the front of the building including windows. Director Enerson presented a summary of the financial feasibility for the project. Pending approval from the City Council for the MIENERGY loan to capitalize EDA loan funds, Member Dybing made the motion to approve a loan in the amount of \$50,000 for 10 years at 2% interest. Payments would begin after August 1 and interest would begin accruing immediately. Member Edwards seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

D. Items from Member:

- 1. LEAN:** A welcome letter to new businesses is being drafted. A REV alumni meeting will be held next week.
- 2. Phil Dybing-Housing Group (MHP):** Currently in phase 4 of 5. Monthly Meetings are still being held. A meeting with Rick Lamon on a potential development proposal and engineering expertise is scheduled.
- 3. Phil Dybing-Wayfinding Sign:** Nothing new to report. May need to find another source for the work.

E. Other

- 1. Banners:** Using the Live, Work, Play theme Kara is working on design and art work. A grant for \$1000 was received from the LACF for the banners.
- 2. June Meeting Schedule:** The time of the June 3rd meeting will be moved to 10:30 AM to allow for office closure at noon.

Adjourn: Member Dybing moved to adjourn at 12:26 p.m. Motion seconded by Member Goetzke. Motion carried all in favor.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Darla Taylor
Deputy Clerk