

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The January 18, 2018 meeting of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at Polo City Hall. Mark Scholl opened the meeting at 7:02p.m.

Members present were Mark Scholl, Andy Faivre, Greg Cross, Sydney Bartelt, Greg Cross, Susie Corbitt, Louise Hall, and Betty Obendorf.

Absent: Mike Faivre, Don Vock, Tracy DeCrane, and Lori Galor.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS:

Discussing was held as to where we are at in asking Jim or Jeannie Cole to become members.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2017 MEETING MINUTES:

Andy Faivre made a motion to approve the November 16, 2017 PEDC meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Greg Cross. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2017 TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Betty Obendorf made a motion to accept the November & December 2017 treasurer's reports as presented and the revolving fund account as presented, seconded by Susie Corbitt. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Senior Housing:

No Report Given.

B. Discussion on a Possible Grocery Store:

Susie is still in contact with Ahmad and Tushar. A business owner has approached Tushar about possibly putting a grocery store in their building. This option has not been pursued as Tushar is still talking with Ahmad. There was discussion on the Polo Mini Storage building being a possibility. Susie will contact the owner to see if they would be open to this idea.

C. Chamber Interviews:

It would be nice to have a liaison to attend the Chamber of Commerce meetings and vice versa. Sydney will send our monthly agenda to the Chamber of Commerce secretary.

D. Discussion on Possible Enterprise Zone:

Greg talked with Dave Sherrick regarding the Enterprise Zone. Greg has not met with William Clothier or Richard Mandell. Greg met with a representative who works for Nicor in their economic development department. He is working on a first phase feasibility study for a natural gas line that leads from Polo to Bocker Ruff. Greg also met with Dave Buchen from Americas SBDC Illinois. Greg suggested that we have Dave Buchen come to one of our upcoming meetings to discuss the services SBDC provides. It was recommended to have DJ Sanders attend

that meeting as well. It would be a good opportunity for the community to hear about their services if they present at Chamber after hours.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mark Scholl would like to step down from his President position. Not all board members were present, and we will hold out on this until next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approval of Bill From Scholl Insurance for Commercial General Liability Coverage:

Susie Corbitt made a motion to approve the bill from Scholl Insurance for Commercial General Liability Coverage, seconded by Louise Hall. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

B. Discussion on Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) For Northwest Illinois Meeting:

Susie and Greg attended the comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS) for Northwest Illinois. The meeting was on January 17th, at Maxon's in Oregon, IL. Some points that were made at the meeting were: don't just think about your community think about your region and what happens to your community depends on your youth. We need to try to keep our youth in Polo. We also need to work on the retention of our current businesses. Our area has some good opportunities for tourism from the state parks. Right now, our building zoning is too strict and needs to get updated. Doug will sit down with Tom to get the zoning codes typed up and published.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Andy Faivre made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm, seconded by Betty Obendorf. The motion carried without dissent.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held February 15, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sydney Bartelt
PEDC Secretary-Treasurer