

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The March 21, 2019 meeting of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at Polo City Hall. President Susie Corbitt opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Members present were Sydney Bartelt, Susie Corbitt, Betty Obendorf, Louise Hall, and Jim Cole. Also, present was Mayor Doug Knapp.

Absent: Greg Cross, Don Vock, Mike Faivre, Josh Faivre, Andy Faivre, Mark Scholl and Tracey DeCrane.

Discussion on Blackhawk Hills RC&D Amendments to the City of Polo Comprehensive Plan- Daniel Payette

Daniel Payette stated that he made some changes to pages 35 & 36 of Polo's Comprehensive Plan. The additions are H3.6, H3.7, and H 6.4.. These changes are showing that we plan on doing these items if we do receive the grants that Economic Growth has applied for. Polo City Council will need to approve the comprehensive plan. Dan would also like to do some brief updates to the data. He will provide a change log that will be presented to the City Council along with the updated comprehensive plan. Dan also recommended to possibly add historical preservation or targets for reinvestments in housing that would benefit a Congress School project. Once the City Council has approved the updated Comprehensive plan; Ogle County will have to have a copy of the updated comprehensive plan as well. Dan is looking to have Polo's Comprehensive plan done in the next month.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS:

None.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 & FEBRUARY 21, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Louise Hall made a motion to accept the January 17, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Betty Obendorf. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

Susie Corbitt made a motion to accept the February 21, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Betty Obendorf. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 2019 TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Betty Obendorf made a motion to accept the February 2019 treasurer's report as presented and the revolving fund account as presented, seconded by Jim Cole. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Affordable Housing.

None.

B. Discussion on Pharmacy.

There is no change from last month. Jennifer Garmen contacted Susie and said that the owners would like Susie to contact our legislatures to see if they could do anything to move this along.

D. PEDC & Polo Chamber of Commerce Business Interviews and Report of Chamber of Commerce February Board Meeting.

There will be one movies in the park at the pool.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on SBDC Partnership.

Stacy McCaskill ended up showing up to the March 18th Polo City Council meeting. She introduced herself to all the City Council members. She was asked to attend our April 18th PEDC meeting to discuss the SBDC partnership and possibly about bringing hemp back to town.

Ron Kern he sent out surveys out about hemp and he received a response back from a lot of farmers who are interested in hemp. The problems are getting the seed and processing close by to make it profitable. Stacy asked to Susie to get some locations. She would like to have a meeting in May to have meeting with professionals to discuss hemp.

B. Discussion on Swat Analyzes.

This will be postponed until next month.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Susie met with Ogle County Economic Development group on Wednesday. She met with Roger Hopkins and Chris Manheim. They came up with a very nice bullet list to help when asking for money from the private sector. Roger Hopkins and Chris Manheim are looking at having a retreat in the first week of June at Stronghold on a Saturday for economic development.

Jim Cole asked to know if anyone has heard how the grocery store has done; Susie said she spoke with Tushar recently and he said the grocery store has been doing great.

ADJOURNMENT:

Jim Cole made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm, seconded by Betty Obendorf. The motion carried without dissent.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held April 18, 2019 at 7:00pm.

Sydney Bartelt
Secretary/Treasurer