

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The meeting for September 20, 2019 of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at the Polo City Hall. The meeting was opened at 7:25p.m. by Mike Faivre since President; Susie Corbitt was ill and there was not a quorum until the Vocks arrived.

Members present were: Mike Faivre, Don Vock, Betty Obendorf , Greg Cross, Louise Hall, and Mayor Doug Knapp. Absent: Jim Cole, Tracey de Crane, Josh Faivre, Mark Scholl, Andy Faivre, Sydney Bartelt, and Susie Corbitt

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS: Dustin Vock was present and expressed interest in joining as a new Director. As there was now a quorum, a motion was made by Greg Cross to add Dustin as a new Director. It was seconded by Betty Obendorf and the vote was unanimous. Don Vock made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 15 meeting, Greg seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Approval of the August Treasurer's report was also unanimous. The Revolving Fund was discussed and approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion on Affordable Housing: Continuation of the discussion from prior to start of this meeting: Mayor Doug Knapp listed available lots: Sherrick Farm lots; Morings land on West Oregon Street; Stan Weber's 4 lots behind him that are already platted and a couple of single or double lots. Discussed the possibility of starting with a few medium income homes and then expanding as interest increases. Greg advised there is HUD zone money available; help with securing that could be received from the Sauk Valley College program that we learned about several months ago. Dustin agreed to check with Sauk Valley College re help in securing funds and help with marketing strategies. Dustin agreed to ask if Polo could qualify for HUD status, which would aid in bringing new people into Polo to start businesses.
- B. Discussion of Pharmacy: No one was sure when the Pharmacy would open full time due to some issues with insurance. It is open now on Thursday.
- C. PEDC & POLO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: NO REPORT

NEW BUSINESS:

A,B,C : Discussion of SWOT ANALYZES, SUCCESSION Planning and Marketing : postponed until Kate O'Connor is available. Louise will check with Kate to see if she can come to the next meeting.

- D. DISCUSSION ON DAVES COFFEE CAKES SALES: only 4 people needed per shift. Don Vock worked with St. Mary's Knights of Columbus to find adequate coverage. He handed out schedule sheets for time of volunteers to work.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Action plans: Mayor Knapp agreed to find out the cost for the city putting in sewer and water for 4 lots. Greg Cross questioned if Sherrick's lots would be at risk for flooding. It was decided that Louise would call Randy Schoon to ask if he would contact Matt about the flooding issue. Doug offered to talk to Larry Moring about his long range planning for the land near Oregon street. It was not clear if anything would be needed regarding zoning of available lots. Greg Cross will contact Hale Mckisky, who helped Pearl City develop new areas for homes. He will be invited to attend the next meeting.
- B. Dustin Vock brought up the need for high speed internet to draw young people back to Polo. He also suggested recruitment of bright high school students to work in Polo area after school. Suggested the upstairs of the old bank, after remodeling, could be used for high tech jobs.
- C. Dustin Vock suggested the need for a Dog Park, perhaps at West Side Park. Mayor suggested the lot downtown where the hotel was razed. Another idea was an area near Shawn Geary's property. It was also suggested by Dustin that a coffee house be located near the park for young adults to gather. Louise agreed to ask Kate O'Connor when the planned coffee house on Mason street might open.

ADJOURNMENT:

Louise Hall moved to adjourn at 8:35, seconded by Betty Obendorf. The motion carried without dissent.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held October 17 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Hall