

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The January 16, 2020 meeting of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at Polo City Hall. President Susie Corbitt opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Members present were Susie Corbitt, Sydney Bartelt, Greg Cross, Andy Faivre, Mark Scholl, and Dustin Vock. Also, present was Alderman Randy Schoon.

Absent: Josh Faivre, Louise Hall, Betty Obendorf, Don Vock, Mike Faivre and Tracey DeCrane.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS:

Brad Ohlwine is interested and will be at the February meeting.

PRESENTATION: Hope Linker's Social Media Management Course.

Hope Linker started with creative marketing business as a side gig which eventually turned into her full-time job. She helps small businesses by working one on one and running their social media. She has created a group coaching program that focuses on content strategies for social media. Hope was thinking that Polo need attraction marketing and to build a culture around this small town. Hope's 8-week training program is \$497. Each session is about 45-60-minutes. Dustin Vock suggested offering this to all of our loan applicants to help them build their business. Dustin would also like to host a Chamber after hours with Hope as a presenter.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 21, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:

Andy Faivre made a motion to accept the November 21, 2019 meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Dustin Vock. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 13, 2020 MEETING MINUTES:

Mark Scholl made a motion to accept the January 13, 2020 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Dustin Vock. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2019 TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Mark Scholl made a motion to accept the November & December 2019 treasurer's report as presented and the revolving fund account as presented, seconded by Dustin Vock. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Housing.

None.

B. PEDC & Polo Chamber of Commerce Business Interviews and Report of Chamber of Commerce January Board Meeting.

None.

C. Discussion on SWOT Analyzes.

None.

D. Discussion on Succession Planning.

None.

E. Discussion on City of Polo Marketing Strategies.

None.

F. Discussion on A Possible Dog Park.

Sydney found a grant that we could apply for that would fund \$25,000 to help build a new dog park. There was a suggestion about putting the dog park out by the new sewer plant. Susie will be looking into zoning for a dog park.

G. Discussion on City Installation of Water & Sewer For Residential Housing Development.

The Meadows subdivision could possibly get 3 lots. They would need water and sewer. The Buffalo Creek Subdivision could have 8-9 lots. Back two rows of houses in the Buffalo Creek Subdivision would need injector pumps to get to Maple Ave. The injector pumps are \$5,000 apiece. Matt Hansen was going to see if there were any FEMA studies on water flow in that area.

H. Discussion on High Speed Internet.

Fiber is not cost effective to the home. 5G may be the better option but when that would come to a rural community is questionable. It would be best to outfit the right areas of town with fiber cable. Verizon and ATT are the major players for 5G. The towers must be closer together in order for 5G to work.

I. Discussion on Kate O'Connor's Possible PCHS Volunteer Program.

None.

J. Discussion on Economic Growth Corporation For Possible Grants.

Dustin is going to do presentation to the Lions Club. Susie is meeting with the Senior Center Board of Directors and the Council of Churches this month. She will be asking if the Churches could run a snippet about the grants in the Church bulletins. Sydney reached out to James Jones at the Economic Growth Corporation to see if anyone from Polo had applied. He said three residents from Polo had submitted applications and they were in the process of being reviewed to see if they qualify.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

At this time Mark Scholl made a motion to elect the following PEDC slate of officers; Secretary Treasurer- Sydney Bartelt, Vice President Dustin Vock, President Susie Corbitt, seconded by Andy Faivre. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Buffalo Creek Subdivision.

Dave and Laurie have someone who is very interested in purchasing the house and the buildings. Dave Sherrick knew if he wanted to sell the property, he would need the City Council's permission. Dave Sherrick said he would cover the cost of the replotting. Sydney stated that Attorney Tom Suits asked her to have discussion on the Buffalo Creek Subdivision on the January 20, 2020 City Council agenda. Susie asked if some Polo Economic Development members could attend to support the Sherrick's.

B. Discussion on Scholl Insurance Bill For Commercial General Liability Insurance of \$266.00.

Andy Faivre made a motion to pay the Commercial General Liability Insurance for \$266.00, seconded by Greg Cross. The motion carried without dissent.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dustin Vock made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 pm, seconded by Greg Cross. The motion carried without dissent.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held February 20, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Sydney Bartelt
Secretary/Treasurer