

POLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The February 17, 2022 meeting of the Polo Economic Development Corporation was held at Polo City Hall. President Dustin Vock opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Member's present were Sydney Bartelt, Mark Scholl, James Reynolds, Louise Hall, Randy Schoon, Dustin Vock. Absent: Andy Faivre, Greg Cross, Randy Schoon, Don Vock, Josh Faivre, Betty Obendorf and Mike Faivre.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIRECTORS:

Dustin Vock suggested Madison Merdian as a new director. She grew up in Polo and works at Wipfli. Motion made by Dustin to add Madison Merdian to the PEDC board of directors, seconded by Randy Schoon. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 20, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:

Mark Scholl made a motion to approve the January 20, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Louise Hall. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2022 TREASURER'S REPORTS:

Randy Schoon made a motion to approve the January 2022 Treasurer's reports, seconded by Mark Scholl. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Report of Chamber of Commerce February Board Meeting.

There was no representative from the Chamber of Commerce to give a report.

B. Discussion on Succession Planning.

Dustin will be meeting with Samantha and Jim Busser to go over Jim's future plans for his business. If there are any other business owners that PEDC members can think of please send them to Dustin. He will send that information to Samantha and work on setting up meetings.

C. Discussion on Possible Grants.

No new grants at this time.

D. Discussion on Subdivision Development.

The Morings would like to sell their land lot by lot. That is not a feasible plan. Mark Scholl stated that Ted Hvarre reached out to him through Wipfli; during the call he asked if Ted would be willing to meet for lunch to discuss Polo. Mark is going to set up the meeting with Ted and several other PEDC members. Ted may have some suggestions on how to get the subdivision going.

E. Discussion on Lighthouse Sweets.

Sydney spoke to Cranston after the last meeting. He said that he had not been employed the whole month of December and money was tight which was why he did not make a December and January payment. He said that he is now employed but does not know what his paychecks are going to be like. He was going to wait to figure out what his pay was going to be before committing to monthly payment. He said he would keep in touch to keep the PEDC up to date.

F. Discussion on creating a business development district.

Dustin suggested this should be something the city should consider to help with the businesses in town. Sydney will send out information regarding the business development district to the PEDC members. Sydney will also reach out to Gwen Crawford from Jakob & Klein about getting a BDD set up.

G. Discussion on Pinecricker/Dad's Bar & Grill.

Dustin spoke with Kathy and she said that they would be able to resume payments in April. She didn't know what exactly their payment would be.

Election of Officers:

James Reynolds made a motion to elect Randy Schoon as Vice President, seconded by Mark Scholl. Carried by voice vote without dissent.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Randy Schoon and Sydney Bartelt met with Chris Manheim from the Ogle County Economic Development Group. They told Chris that their primary focus is to get a subdivision started since they extended the TIF district. Randy asked Chris about possibly getting into the enterprise zone. Chris said he would reach out to Andy Shaw to get the application going for the City of Polo. The meeting was very productive and positive. The next Ogle County Economic meeting is sometime in March.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mark Scholl made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Betty Obendorf. Carried by voice vote without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

The next meeting of the PEDC will be held March 17, 2022 at 7:00pm.

Sydney Bartelt
Secretary/Treasurer