

Economic Development Committee Meeting

Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:00 pm
Village Hall
405 Main St. Pecatonica, IL

1. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Kathy Doty at 6:00 pm on Monday, September 11, 2023.
2. **Roll call –** Chairman Doty, Trustees Kim Gipe, Tom Gipe and committee members Cheryl Bean, Jack Stroup, and Cassie Blair were present. Committee member Jennifer Vanderjack was absent.

Also in attendance were Village President Heister, Heather Squires, Tanya Wurtzel, Richard Backeberg and Jared Johnson.

3. **Additions/Corrections to the Agenda-**

Motion made by Tom Gipe seconded by Kim Gipe to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted yes motion approved.

4. **Public Comment-** None

5. **Approve July 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes-**

A motion was made by Kim Gipe and seconded by Tom Gipe to approve the July 10, 2023 Minutes. Discussion. A roll call vote was taken, all present voted yes motion approved.

6. **ISMA Kite Day Event-**

Jared Johnson of the ISMA discussed this year's Kite Day event scheduled for September 23, 2023. This event will be held at the Winnebago County Fair Grounds. The club gives away free kites while they last as well as raffling off four bikes. Discussion. Jared also discussed wanting to combined the 2024 kite day with the committees Labor Day Event. Discussion. Village President Heister requested that we put the event on the website to promote this year's event.

7. **Review and Approve German American State Bank and Pecatonica Women's Club Street Closure Request–**

Heather Squires and Tanya Wurtzel of the Pecatonica Woman's Club reviewed the street closure request for the Fall Festival & Truck or Treat Event and asked the committee for a donation of \$1,200.00 to sponsor the four bounce houses for the event. Discussion. The Committee will continue to discuss this and will let the Woman's Club know by the end of the week. The procedure moving forward will be to discuss donations, approval of street closures, and Grant applications will be discussed with the committee after the presentations are made.

8. **Review Matching Business Grant Application-**

Richard Backeberg discussed his application for the Matching Business Grant. They plan to improve the space behind The Bicycle Hub to create a better curb appeal. They are planning to create a place for customers to gather, a place to park and test bicycles and enter the store. Discussion. The Committee will continue to discuss this and will let The Bicycle Hub know by the end of the week. The procedure moving forward will be to discuss donations, approval of street closures, and Grant applications will be discussed with the committee after the presentations are made.

9. Approve to send to the Village Board Committee Recommendation for Business Grant Award-

Tabled until later in the meeting.

10. Discuss Labor Day Festival -

The committee brainstormed some ideas for the day event. They discussed having a Fun Run, Kiddie Tractor Pulls, A Street Magician, The ISMA Kite day, possible Hot Air Balloons and end the day with a Band and Street Dance. They talked about selling T-Shirts for the event as a fundraiser. The committee members will continue to do research and this discussion will continue at future meetings. The goal is to have a complete list of events for the day by the December Meeting and have a Time line in place as far as scheduling by the January Meeting. Discussion The committee will be reaching out to all of the local clubs to offer the space to plan something for the day. The plan for now is to have a one day Saturday Event the weekend of Labor Day. This will be August 31, 2024.

11. Discuss Building Scarecrows for Downtown-

The committee discussed the Scarecrow festival that we have had over the past few years. They discussed attaching the scarecrows to the lamp poles vs. purchasing the hay bales. There has been declining participants the last couple years. Discussion. The committee decided to hold off on the Scarecrows for fall of 2023 and revisit next year.

12. Review Financial Reports-

The committee reviewed the current financials. Discussion. The committee discussed how they are funded by the video gaming machines. They also discussed that when a vote is needed that involves money only elected officials on the committee are allowed to vote.

13. New Business-

Village President Heister suggested that the committee put a float together for the Memorial Day Parade to advertise for the Labor Day Event. Discussion.

14. Next Meeting- Monday, October 16, 2023

The meeting next month is a week later due to the Columbus Day Holiday.

15. The committee resumed discussion on the Street Closures, Donations and the Business Grant-

The committee discussed setting guidelines for donations moving forward. They also discussed the effect closing down Main Street has on businesses. The committee will review and come up with guidelines for street closures, request will need to include a map with plans of what is going where and how the flow of people and traffic are expected. Add Donation Guidelines to the next agenda for review.

A motion was made by Tom Gipe and seconded by Jack Stroup to approve the Street Closure and donate \$1,000.00 to the Pecatonica Woman's Club. Discussion. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor motion approved. 3-0-0

A motion was made by Tom Gipe and seconded by Kim Gipe to approve up to \$2,500.00 Matching Grant to The Bicycle Hub. Discussion. A roll call vote was taken all in favor. Motion approved 3-0-0

16. Adjournment- A motion was made by Kim Gipe seconded by Tom Gipe to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.