

Meeting Minutes
New Prague Economic Development Authority
Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Dirk Berger, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with the following members present: Berger, Guerrette, Wolf, Tietz, Slavik, and Executive Director Morris. Invited guests: Mike Johnson, Kristy Mach, Patty Solheid and Karin Witty.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were reviewed. Slavik moved approval, Tietz seconded and the Committee approved unanimously.

2. Transfer Funds from NPO to EDA

The Committee discussed how to handle the \$40k transfer of funds from New Prague Opportunities to the EDA following the dissolution of NPO. Johnson and Solheid recommended a special account be established for the EDA from which business loans could be made. The EDA approved this strategy. The committee requested that Jim get the final NPO minutes when the decision to transfer the money to the EDA was made.

3. Claims for Payment

The claims for payment for March were reviewed. The Committee approved unanimously.

4. Balance Sheet and Income Statement

A review of these reports was conducted.

5. Lot Inventory Report

The Committee discussed the shortage of available industrial property.

6. Schumacher Hotel

Morris reported that John Schumacher's plan is to reopen the hotel and the restaurant in May or June of 2009. The remodeling effort is now underway.

7. Public Safety Building

All is going well. The building is now open and being used by Fire and Ambulance personnel. Johnson agreed to tour the EDA at our next meeting.

8. Waste Water Treatment Plant

The early part of the construction process is now underway. Johnson said the construction is on schedule. Projected completion date is 4th Quarter 2010 or early 2011.

9. Quality Flow

Morris reported that Quality Flow has placed their building expansion on temporary hold until general business conditions improve.

10. Dozinky Festival

Johnson briefed the EDA on problems with the State Highway Department and their proposal to limit the closing of the downtown street to only four hours which would destroy the festival. He said the highway department has backed away from this demand but efforts are underway to get a permanent decision to allow the Festival.

11. Walgreens Drug Store

Johnson said this project is moving along well. Construction should begin in May with a targeted opening in September.

12. Keystone Assisted Living Building

Wolf said Keystone has temporarily decided to hold off on the project.

13. Business Valuation Seminar

Morris to follow up with Tietz, his partner, and Kristy Mach to determine date and content for this seminar.

14. New Prague Czechs Program

Mach provided a brief update on the status of the New Prague Czechs program. The Chamber Board will decide soon on how to close out the program.

15. EDA Membership

DeAnne Puente has decided to resign from the EDA Board. Morris will talk to Johnson about getting a replacement.

16. Traffic Circle

Johnson provided the EDA a brief update on the potential construction of another traffic circle on the west side of town on highway 19 near the school and Mormon Church. He said the State Highway Department would pay 75% of the expenses.

17. Bevcomm Service Expansion

Berger reported that Bevcomm is planning to invest \$3.1 million dollars in the community. The investment will be used to get a bigger “electronic pipeline – fiber” to all the home in New Prague. This will result in substantially enhanced service for the people in the community.

18. Residential Real Estate Presentation

Karin Witt provided the EDA with an update on the residential real estate business in our area.

19. Visit to Other EDA Organizations

Guerrette suggested visiting some other EDA’s in the area to see how they conduct their business. Morris reported no visits have been made yet.

20. Loan Fund

Johnson told the EDA that the current economic development fund held by the City is \$500,000.

21. Executive Directors Report

The Executive Directors report for March was reviewed.

22. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Next Meetings

May 13, 2009

June 10, 2009

July 8, 2009