

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

May 9, 2016 at 6pm

Village Hall in Port Byron, IL

1) Call to order

Chair Clinton Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

2) Roll Call/ Establishment of a Quorum

Roll call: Present: Barb Cartwright, Barb Cray, Ron Jacobs, Kevin Klute,
Clinton Sullivan

Absent: Terry Foust

3) Gallery- Questions and Comments

None

4) Administrative

A: Approve meeting minutes from April 11, 2016

Motion made by Ron Jacobs and seconded by Kevin Klute to approve April 11, 2016 minutes - All "Ayes"

B. Chairman Clinton Sullivan announce that he has resigned as Village Trustee, so he will not remain as Chairman, though he does plan to stay on this committee

5) Old business:

A: Dorrance Park

1. Work has commenced on building the trails, with 3 workdays completed to date
2. Terry Foust is our liaison on this project, but is unable to be here tonight to provide further information
3. The funds provided by the Village, Rock Island County, and RiverAction should be sufficient to cover the trail costs, though there is some indication that the lighting at Dorrance Park may need replacement – which is a huge cost
4. Kevin Klute also met with the "Golf Guru", Chase, who owns the Iron Lion, a shop specializing in disc golf supplies
 - a. They looked at Dorrance Park and thought it looked very promising
 - b. Kevin will follow up on this possibility

B: Baby Blues Fest

1. Kevin and Clinton met with some business owners prior to this meeting, to exchange info and make sure all is set
2. The flyer for the event is halfway done, as Clinton has been meeting with restaurants to obtain info

C: Old Academy Site

1. Clinton checked with realtor, and there is nothing new to report

6) New business

A: The Great River Trail Map

1. QC Online has printed a map of the Great River Trail
2. Clinton purchased a "spot" on the printed map, on behalf of Port Byron, and is seeking ideas for what we should put in the space

B: Rip Rap for Tug Fest

1. The site of the Tug Fest is leased by the Village of Port Byron under a recreational lease from the U S Army Corps of Engineers
2. There is some risk of erosion of the river bank at the site of the actual tug pulls
3. The lease calls for Village attention to maintenance of the area to “control erosion”, so the Village is seeking to lay some rip-rap rock at the site to protect the riverbank
4. Kevin will discuss with Alan Black, the Tugmaster

C: Open window selling from businesses for tug

1. It is not legal to sell from an open window, per Village Ordinance

D: Bicycle Rentals

1. The QC Convention and Visitors Bureau have begun to rent bicycles, and have broached the possibility of other river towns doing the same
2. The bikes are TREK bikes, obtained from the TREK store
3. There is, unfortunately, very little profit to be made at the rates that have been set up
4. There are also a great number of requirements for handling the rental process which were time-intensive and time-sensitive
5. With a part-time staff at Village Hall, the committee did not feel this was a viable enterprise for the Village

E: TIF info (Commercial and/or Residential)

1. The Village Board referred to this committee the question of whether the Village TIF funds should/could be used for residential projects
2. Very few municipalities do residential TIF financing
3. Considerable discussion ensued as to proper use of TIF funds
4. The Village does have a TIF committee, and it was felt they were more knowledgeable as to the rules and guidelines for TIF funds
5. It was decided no opinion would be rendered by this committee, at this meeting
 - a. Kevin will discuss further with TIF Chairman T Wiebenga
 - b. Clinton will discuss with Village TIF attorney K Orr

7) Gallery- Questions and Comments

There was some discussion as to the possibility of the MetroLINK water taxi traveling as far as Port Byron/LeClaire; apparently there is a feasibility study underway to determine cost-effectiveness. No conclusions are expected from that study for a year or two.

8) Adjourn

Moved by Ron Jacobs and seconded by Barb Cartwright to adjourn – all “Ayes”
Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Cray, Secretary

Next meeting date: Monday June 13, 2016 at 6 pm.