



Webster Economic Development Alliance

Meeting Minutes from July 7, 2016

PRESENT:

Carmen Gumina, Ron Nesbitt, John Cahill, Robyn Whittaker, Barry Howard, Greg Chambery, Darryll Byerts, and Matt Chatfield

Carmen Gumina welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the meetings held on June 2, 2016 were reviewed with no changes. Approval of the minutes – moved by _____ ; seconded by _____ - all approved.

Financial Report:

The Financial report for the month of June 2016 will be emailed.

Staff Activity Report:

Matt Chatfield provided an activity update for the month of June. Matt said he has been busy with continued work done on the North Avenue Connector Project. He said there was a Design Advisory Committee Meeting and the options discussed will be presented to the community in an upcoming Public Information Meeting. It was decided to have the Public Informational Meeting either in August or September, which will give the Engineer more time to pull all the information together. The main focus to date has been the street lighting and new sidewalks along North Avenue, which will be done by next year. The Corridor and Gateway improvements will be done to coincide with each other. The planters will match both projects on Main Street and on North Avenue for continuity.

Matt said the Xerox luncheon which was held in June for a Realtor/ Developer Workshop was a big step forward in our relationship. Matt explained the event turned out some good feedback and it was reiterated that an offering package does need to be put in place by Xerox. He said the hope is to put together an offering package as part of the Grant opportunity.

Matt has been invited as a member of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council workgroup for Next Generation Manufacturing, which has a focus on industrial parks and development sites such as Eastman Business Park.

Matt said he met with Ron Lapointe, manager of global real estate strategy for Xerox and discussed the Industrial Vision, Master Plan and Marketing for the West Complex. Xerox has said they will contribute financially towards the matching funds required for the proposed grant. One of the goals would be to develop a Medical Complex or a Life Campus facility with Health and Wellness Specialist. The revitalization study which would be requested will be supplemented with seventy five thousand dollar funds from RG&E and also the same or seventy five thousand dollars matching funds from Empire State Development money. Matt said the grant application is due on July 29, 2016 and if awarded the grant the timeline to receive the funding will take about a year.

The next discussion was concerning the CFA Grant Funding Application for the Harmony House Revitalization Feasibility study. The grant money would come from New York State Council of Arts in the amount of forty nine thousand five hundred dollars and it does not need any match. There is also Historic Preservation money which will come out of New York State Parks and this amount of money would be fifty thousand dollars. Combined the grant is almost one hundred thousand dollars. The NYSCA money will be for the match of one of the grants and this is the only instance where this is allowed. We will apply for both grants and one is used for the match for the other. This revitalization of the Harmony House is part of a larger effort to identify the Village Core as the center for Arts, Culture and Entertainment. The hope is to create an Arts and Entertainment District. We will put together a plan with the NYSCA money for this proposed Art District which would pull in the Harmony House, the Museum, and Gazebo Park. We are also attempting to involve the Chorus of the Genesee. This grant application is also due on July 29, 2016.

Round Table:

Robyn Whittaker of the BID said July is their busy season. Friday night concerts, a Chicken Barbeque. The Jazz Festival will be on two days and the concerts will be staggered at different Pubs and Restaurants on Friday night from 6:30pm until 11:00pm and in the Street on Saturday. The Chamber will be the Concert Sponsor for the Party in the Park on August 13, which will have music from 4:00pm until 8:00pm, Wine Walk from 4:00pm until 7:00pm, and then Classic movie in the Park. The BID also approved the money for the new planters and the plants in the Village. The BID has also put this in the budget so each year the BID will put money toward it.

Barry Howard from the Chamber of Commerce said July is a quiet month because it is the start of the fiscal year. The next breakfast will be on Friday, July 29, 2016. We had a fabulous networking event at Maplewood this past month. The June Breakfast was huge with about 118 guests and we handed out longevity awards for businesses that have 25 years or more. The Drum Core will be coming to Rochester on Labor Day weekend and all the hotels even in Webster will be filled. The Chamber is trying to hold a practice session for some of the bands here in Webster.

Supervisor Nesbitt from the Town of Webster said there is a timeline for the grant money for Sandbar Park which will be from September out which falls in line with another donation we have received from Senator Nozzolio for a new Liberty Lodge Cottage on the Lake. Right now the parking lot is being put in and we dug up a train wheel, and axel, break line and the wrench to go with it. These items might be on display as a focal point in the new building. The Waterfront Art Festival will be July 30 – 31, 2016. The Tomato Factory is on the Planning Board Agenda for August 2, 2016. Senator Nozzolio, along with Assemblyman Mark Johns and Joe Morelle will be in Webster on August 6, 2016 at noon to present a check in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars toward the new Challenger Field.

Mayor Cahill from the Village of Webster said the new restaurant Sweet Wood Barbecue is now open.

Meeting Adjourned: Carmen Gumina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 4, 2016 – 7:30 A.M. / Webster Chamber of Commerce.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary, WCCED
JC/ja