



Minutes

October 20, 2022, | 8:30 a.m. (*Rescheduled from October 13, 2022*)

Blue Earth City Hall, Council Chambers

Officers Present: Marc Meier, Chair

Members Present: Shellie Poetter, Annie Nichols, Deb Anderson

Members Absent: Lissia Laehn, Vice Chair, Mandy Fletcher, John Huisman

Staff: Amy Schaefer, Mary Kennedy

Also in Attendance: Emily Davis

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Meier called the meeting to order at 8:32 am

2. Approve Agenda

Motion by Nichols second by Anderson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve Consent Agenda

a. Minutes from September 7, 2022

b. Financials & Transactions

Motion by Poetter second by Nichols to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference Follow Up

i. Curriculum

1. Fast Trac

2. Co Starters

Kennedy shared information about the CEC Conference which was held this year in Red Wing. From her notes she indicated that both Waseca, MN and Collider, an organization in Rochester presented on business/entrepreneurial competition events. Each organization utilized curriculum and discussed the pros and cons of each. Kennedy offered to invite representatives to virtually discuss went well about their programs with the REV group at a future meeting. Schaefer also attended the conference and mentioned that the presenters shared that they did not have one-on-one mentors, rather they invited relevant speakers to the weekly meetings and the participants could connect with them and utilize them as a resource. The group felt this could be a realistic model for Blue Earth.

b. Entrepreneurial Bridge Event Follow Up

Kennedy, Nichols, and Schaefer all shared input from SMIF's Bridge event. Nichol's noted that the fall may not be a good time of year for entrepreneurs, Meier agreeing. Kennedy suggested sharing that feedback with SMIF. Kennedy shared information that was presented by the MN Chamber at the conference.

c. 2023 Donation/Fundraising

An email was sent to REV earlier in the month indicating four organizations had pledged funding for 2022 but had not yet sent in a check. Fletcher had already taken care of much of the correspondence on this issue and checks should be forthcoming. Davis would work on plans for REV committee members to attend civic group meetings to request donations for 2023.

5. Old Business

a. Entrepreneur Pop-up Project

i. Faribault County EDA Marketing for Mentors

Included in the packet was a copy of the advertisement that was shared by the Faribault County EDA as a call for mentors. Nichols indicated she would rerun the in the newsletter with updated information in the future.

b. B.E. Welcoming

i. REV as Fiscal Agent

Meier explained that REV is the fiscal host for B.E. Welcoming's funds. This includes the \$10,000 SMIF Small Town Grant and the \$20,000 Blandin grant. Schaefer indicated that these grants both have expenditure timelines of one year. Kennedy requested that the board clearly indicate they understand they are the fiscal agent of these funds but would hear updates on the expenditures.

Motion by Poetter second by Anderson to continue to serve as the Fiscal Agent for B.E. Welcoming. Motion passed unanimously.

ii. Blandin Grant

A press release was included in the packet.

iii. Day of the Dead Festival

An invitation to the Day of the Dead Festival: A Cultural Experience was extended to the group for October 30th at 10 Talents Center for the Arts from 12-4 pm.

c. VISTA Update

Schaefer shared that the applicant had pulled her application for Blue Earth's VISTA position at this time. The committee agreed that Schaefer should continue to work with SMIF to pursue a VISTA as time allows.

6. Other Business

a. Welcome Baskets

321 W 6th Street (Koestler) – Emily Davis
404 Tanglewood Lane (Schimmelman) – Marc Meier
315 E 10th Street (Hinton) – Lissia Laehn
409 N Holland Street (Su) – Emily Davis

b. Website Updates

Nothing at this time.

7. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Nichols second by Anderson to adjourn at 9:53 am.

NEXT MEETING November 10, 2022