

MARCH 18, 2015 WASHBURN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

4:00 P.M. Washburn Public Library – Book Bin Room

Members Present: Rick M. Geisen, John Baregi, Peter Bremner;
Christine Kelly, Jon Wheeler

Members Absent: William D. Olson, Taylor Pearson

Municipal Personnel Present: City Administrator Scott J. Kluver; Ken
Cammilleri, Assistant City Administrator

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Chair Geisen in the Book Bin Room of the Library at 4:00 p.m. It was noted that Council member Avol was in attendance.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2015 – Baregi moved and Kelly seconded to approve the minutes of February 11, 2015. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion on Potential Development/Redevelopment Projects in Washburn – Guests Invited – Peter Bremner had a conversation with Rocky Kavajecz regarding potential hotel development in the City. It was relayed that Mr. Kavajecz thought that the Washburn market was very difficult. Part of the difficulty is to match an investor with a group that thinks with its heart. As the property that the City of Washburn owns south of Omaha Street is not an attractive property, it would be necessary to take whatever steps possible to make the site as attractive as possible. Kelly relayed that Habitat for Humanity is looking to purchase/build/rehab property in Washburn. It was suggested to have an update to those plans presented at a future meeting. Wheeler would like to review the mission and goals of the WDA.

Discussion and Action on Request from Washburn Chamber of Commerce for Washburn Board Across the Bay Sponsorship – Discussion occurred on the proposal received by the Chamber for sponsorship of the Board Across the Bay event. Points made that sponsorship of events is not really the mission of the WDA. Baregi moved, and Bremner seconded, to decline the sponsorship of the Board Across the Bay event and invite the Chamber to a meeting to discuss areas where the two organizations can work together. Discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Future Agenda Item Topics – Habitat for Humanity update, Movin’ Out Ad-Hoc Committee update, marketing the property south of Omaha Street, look for grants to assist with utility connections requirements, website content, discussion with the Chamber of Commerce.

Adjourn – Bremner moved and Baregi seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott J. Kluver
Executive Director