**Van Alstyne Community Development Corporation**

**Minutes – Regular Board Meeting**

**228 East Marshall**

**Thursday, March 12, 2020, 6:30 P.M.**

**A QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY OR MAY NOT BE PRESENT. NO ACTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING.**

1. **Call to order - Recognition of guest(s)**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Chris Dorak. Present were Board members Wayne Womack, Alesha Crowell, David Griffin, Robert Jaska, Brenda McDonald and Executive Director Rodney Williams. Absent was board member Collin Flynn.**

**Guests present were Carla Smith, Amanda Rutledge and Gerryn Strother.**

**2. Discuss/Action: Request by Gerald Rutledge, Van Alstyne True Value Hardware, regarding Community Development Funding**

**Amanda Rutledge, co-owner of Van Alstyne True Value Hardware, updated the Board on the construction of their new store at 330 E. Van Alstyne Parkway. Rutledge requested Community Development Grant funding in the amount of $5,000 to aid in the installation of glass and doors on the storefront. David Griffin asked for specifics regarding the glass.**

**3. Discuss/Action: Request by Van Alstyne Chamber of Commerce regarding funding for seasonal Music in the Park series**

**Van Alstyne Chamber of Commerce Interim Executive Director Carla Smith spoke to the Board to request continued funding of the seasonal Music in the Park series. Smith stated that there would be six events this season beginning in March and extending through October with no shows slated for July and August due to heat. Smith requested $4,000.**

**4. Discuss/Action: Request by City of Van Alstyne to fund installation of playground equipment at McKinney Wilson Park**

**Rodney Williams presented the City’s request to fund the installation of newly-purchased playground equipment at McKinney Wilson Park in the amount of $6,485. Discussion was led by Chris Dorak regarding future parks funding and the possible need for a budget amendment moving forward. Robert Jaska presented information regarding the Parks budget and costs. Brenda McDonald made a motion to approve the request in the amount of $6,485. Wayne Womack seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Robert Jaska abstaining.**

**5. Discuss/Action: Request by City of Van Alstyne to fund installation of rock surface at site of Railcar Farmers Market at Cooper/Main St.**

**Rodney Williams presented the City’s request for funding in the amount of $9,712.50 for gravel and flex base surface for the Railcar Farmers Market at the intersection of Cooper and Main St. Discussion was had regarding installing a top base versus a longer-lasting top base and bottom flex base. Wayne Womack made a motion to approve the request in the amount of $9,712.50 with a second from David Griffin. The motion passed 5-0 with Robert Jaska abstaining.**

**6. Discuss/Action: Director’s Report**

**Rodney Williams presented his Director’s Report. Among the topics discussed was the status of the CDC office as the Welcome Center in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation. Williams stated that due to no other personnel in the office Executive Administrator Tiffany Chartier was burdened with the duties of also being the face of the Welcome Center and that the EDC, which is currently an all-volunteer board, did not want to take part. Robert Jaska inquired as to why the Chamber director was not a part of this and Williams stated that she is not in the office. After further discussion, Williams was directed by the Board to issue a letter to the Chamber asking it to honor the long-standing commitment of having personnel work the Welcome Center in exchange for free rent and expenses. He was directed to have President Chris Dorak sign the letter and send it to Chamber President Barbie Griffin.**

**Discussion was also had regarding the annual ICSC ReCon economic development conference in Las Vegas. Williams reported that though it is still on it is doubtful the event will happen due to coronavirus concerns.**

**7. Discuss/Action: Treasurer’s Report**

**Robert Jaska made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented with a second from Wayne Womack. The motion passed 6-0.**

**8. Discuss/Action: Contracting with EDP Best Practices, LLP for site studies services**

**Rodney Williams presented a proposal by EDP Best Practices, LLP to conduct site studies regarding available commercial and retail sites. The package includes a listing of those available sites to be posted on the CDC website to facilitate easier access for potential business owners. The Board liked the idea and Williams stated that he would approach the EDC to see if that board would like to share in the cost and have its industrial and manufacturing sites done as part of the study. Williams will return to the Board with this in April.**

**9. Recess into closed session pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code**

**for deliberation regarding:**

**a. Sec. 551.087 - to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations; Project Mongoose; Project Barley.**

**b. Reconvene into open session**

**10. Discuss/Action: Take any action as a result of closed session**

**Alesha Crowell made a motion to approve Amanda Rutledge’s request in the amount of $5,000 as presented on behalf of Van Alstyne True Value Hardware in accordance with section 501.103 of the Texas Local Govt. Code relating to site improvements. Brenda Mcdonald seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.**

**Wayne Womack made a motion to approve funding in an amount not to exceed $4,000 to the Van Alstyne Chamber of Commerce for the 2020 Music in the Park series contingent on per-event invoicing from the Chamber. David Griffin seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Robert Jaska abstaining.**

**11. Closing comments**

**Chris Dorak asked David Griffin to coordinate an information-sharing meeting with the Allen Economic Development Corporation.**

**12. Adjourn**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by Rodney Williams**