

Town of Walkersville
Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2014

Attendees; Gary Baker, Sherry Loving, Ben Douds , Ray Soderberg, Clara Winch
Citizen attendees; Mr. Rudy

Body of minutes; 48

7:43pm meeting is called to order by Ben Douds.

There are no minutes to review and the EDC begins review of the new website proposal and Kim of Kalico Designs request to create the content for the online directory. It's decided that the directory will include; business name, address of business, business phone number, and business website if available. Gary is to confirm if the business websites listed on the online directory if they can be hyperlinked on the website.

In discussing the directory the concerns of breaking the businesses into categories are addressed. In an effort to keep as many "like" businesses grouped under a specific umbrella category, it's decided that if a business qualifies under more than one category they are to be included under all applicable categories. Clara offers to acquire the established directory of categories per the IRS for the EDC to reference in building the online business directory for the town.

Tee shirts are brought up, they need to be ordered....

It's confirmed that Commissioner Russell Winch has been taking pictures for the town website and all commissioners have had their photos taken. We are to follow up on the status of other individuals to be pictured on the town's website.

"Is there anything from the town that we can offer businesses as we visit door to door?" Clara Winch. A sticker, pins, historical CD, etc. were suggested and ultimately a pen was decided on. Gary is to confirm if we can get pens for distribution for when the EDC begins their introductory walk to all the businesses of Walkersville.

Ray is reminded to contact Berlin for an EDC interview based on their latest recognition as being "America's coolest small town."

Ray brings up concerns regarding the local restaurant "Marsala's" and the town's power to enforce codes addressing the mess on the property. It's noted that the town is aware, but there is nothing that can be done, as there are no specific code violations per authorities research. It's then determined that the EDC needed to adopt the responsibility to review the town codes and find ways to enforce the "beautification of our town," as it was agreed, especially on a main through street, there should be a cohesive overall appearance that buildings are maintained along with its sidewalk appeal. Gary and Ben make the EDC aware that we need to read up on the town codes, specifically Chpt. 88, focusing on commercial & industrial codes. All members of the EDC are to be assigned readings to become familiar with the codes, so they may be discussed at following meetings so the EDC may begin creating standards for Walkersville "business district."

Ben opens the floor for citizens concerns. Mr. Rudy addresses the EDC making us aware he's been actively pursuing actions to property concerns of West Krum Rd and company Velro. He makes suggestions to hold the GVAA accountable for their schedules and requesting they post their schedule online. He also makes a recommendation to the EDC to begin recording our meetings.

Ben asks if there are any more concerns, the meeting is adjourned at 8:35pm.

As submitted by Sherry Loving