

Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) / SCD Board Meeting

DATE: September 16, 2015 (approved 10/07/15) **LOCATION:** Homestead Center (1119 B Street)

DIRECTORS ATTENDING

Lonnie Kitt (President)*
Larry Karel (Vice President)*
Jerry Karnatz (Secretary)*
Charlie Heavican (Treasurer)*
Javier Arizmendi
Richard Folda
Denise Kracl
Jon Knutson
Chris Langemeier*
Brian Vavricek

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Jeff Gall
Jarrod Gillig

Invited Guests

Jim McGowen
Dan Hoelsing
Brian Bywater

CARC Members*

Lonnie Kitt*
Larry Karel*
Jerry Karnatz*
Charlie Heavican*
Chris Langemeier*

Mission Statement: *To provide leadership in facilitating community development and sustained economic growth.*

7:00 a.m.

- SCD Meeting called to order by Lonnie Kitt (President).
- Statement of Compliance with Open Meetings Act posted and acknowledged.
- Meeting Minutes (08-26-15) approved. Minutes posted @ Schuyler DEVELOPMENT.net.
- Infrastructure Update: Utilities Department Superintendent, Jim McGowen, stated hope to complete new sanitary lift station (W. 22nd St.) by end of October / early November. Lavern Kracl's replacement on the Board of Public Works may be appointed by the Mayor in November / December of this year.
- Homestead Center Ribbon Cutting and SCD 30th Anniversary Reception tomorrow (Sep. 17th).
- SCD Annual Meeting on October 7th @ the Cobblestone Hotel. 6:30am self-served breakfast.
- SCS Update: Dr. Dan Hoelsing reported a technology fair will be held on October 14th. Second floor renovations (Phase 2) completed at the preschool building. SCS is partnering with Schuyler employers to help engage greater community support for SCS athletics. Student enrollment up +100 students this year (+30 elementary, +20 middle school, +40 high school). Rec building (1.5 million dollars) 'ground breaking' at noon today (Middle School). Budget process completed - tax rate lowered to .95. SCS budget to remain flat while maintaining adequate cash reserves. As of August, County Resource Officer has an office at the high school – and has resulted in significant reduction in both student absenteeism and tardiness. Interlocal agreement signed with the City transferring \$25,000 into the City's new loan pool for the construction of speculative housing. Also, Board of Education has approved an interlocal agreement with Schuyler's Head Start Program.
- Reference municipal valuation growth, EDC 'thanked' Jarrod for lifting up the position of many farmers and ranchers on their unfavorable view of the increasing valuation of their rural properties. Reviewed a recent news article ("*Legislative panel launch study of property taxes, school aid in Nebraska*") and how the news article coincided with Jarrod's comments made during the 08/26/16 SCD Meeting.
- Brian Bywater reviewed Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act). Discussed its implications for local landlords (including therapy animals) and its impact on NDED grants.
- Schuyler's current economic incentives briefly reviewed: LB 840 0% interest loans (secured), LB 840 Grow Schuyler Incentive (performance-based), and Tax Increment Financing (TIF).
- Miscellaneous:
 - Colfax County July unemployment 2.7% (150 individuals)
 - 484 employment opportunities within 25 mile radius of Schuyler (09/15/15)
 - 2016 Income Survey (LMI) to be completed in spring - Community Housing Specialist
 - November 2017 Special Election to Renew SEDPlan (2021- 2028)

7:52 a.m. - adjourned Next **SDC Board Meeting:** **DATE:** October 7, (Wednesday)

TIME: 7:00a.m. – 8:00a.m.

LOCATION: Cobblestone Hotel

Minutes prepared by Kem Cavanah, EDC