

Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) / SCD Board Meeting

DATE: June 22, 2016 (approved 07/06/16)

LOCATION: Homestead Center (1119 B Street)

DIRECTORS ATTENDING

Lonnie Kitt (President*)
Larry Karel (Vice President*)
Jerry Karnatz (Secretary*)
Charlie Heavican (Treasurer*)
Javier Arizmendi
Jarrod Gillig
Jon Knutson
Denise Kracl
Chris Langemeier*

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Brian Vavricek
Richard Folda
Jeff Gall

Invited Guests

Jim McGowen
Tom Healy
Daryl Homberg
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 (06-01-16) approved. Minutes posted @ Schuyler DEVELOPMENT.net.
- Infrastructure Update - Schuyler Utilities Department: Jim McGowen stated all underground work at the WaterTower 2nd Subdivision has been completed and the subdivision's new streets are on schedule for completion by mid-July. Also, the A Street project has been completed. Lastly, in conjunction with new pedestrian street crossing at Middle School, will be boring beneath Hwy 15.
- Schuyler Housing - Brian Bywater (CHS): General Contractor bids due June 30th for the Kracl Meadows senior rental housing project; bid notices published in both the Columbus Telegram and the Schuyler Sun - construction scheduled to begin in September. Calculated economic impact of the project is \$3,509,055. Currently, seven people have requested their names be added to the waiting list for the 14 senior rental units. Directors again reminded of the importance of 'pricing points' and 'completion time lines' for contractors to have competitive bids.
- Growing Schuyler's tax base remains a top priority. Discussed recent newspaper article outlining three major areas of importance for a community to compete (**quality of life, housing, jobs**). Aligning policies and practices in support of growing the municipal tax base is critical for competing with other communities. Requiring local residency of publicly funded positions (e.g., Police Chief), is an example of aligning policies and practices with priority for growing tax base. Directors reviewed 'Comparing Nebraska Communities' document; compared with eight other communities, Schuyler's 2015 Valuation is the lowest - yet third lowest in Municipal Tax Rate. Adding the population of each community was suggested – document to be revised.
- EDC recommended extending CHS position beyond its current three-year shelf life (09/30/17). Schuyler's housing shortage is not temporary - requires keeping a full-time focus on this critical priority. Prior to the July 13th SCD Meeting, EDC to prepare and distribute document outlining proposed funding for the CHS position.
- As discussed previously with both Directors and City Council Members, downtown Schuyler is the '**heart of the community**'. The downtown's appearance / image, is negatively impacting perceptions and decisions. Major improvements to the downtown are needed now and will require significant public and private investment.
- Directors approved / adopted SCD Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Policy Statement.
- Miscellaneous:
 - 476 employment opportunities within a twenty-five mile radius (06/18/16)
 - Colfax County May unemployment 3.0%

7:51 a.m. - adjourned

Next **SDC Board Meeting:** **DATE:** July 6th & July 13th (Wednesdays)

TIME: 7:00a.m. - 8:00a.m.

LOCATION: Homestead Center

