

SDC Board Meeting

August 26th, 2009 (approved on 09-16-09)

LOCATION: City Building
TIME: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

ATTENDING:

Lonnie Kitt (Vice President)
Jerry Karnatz (Secretary)
Marv Capoun
Kem Cavanah (EDC)
Richard Folda
Jeff Gall
Jon Knutson
Steve Thompson
Brian Vavricek

ABSENT:

Larry Karel (President)
Charlie Heavican (Treasurer)
David Johnson

Guests:

none

TOPICS:

7:00 a.m.

- SDC Board Meeting called to order by Lonnie Kitt (Vice President).
- Minutes (08-05-09) approved.
- Directors were unanimous in extending a Directorship position to Chris Langemeier to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Chris Miller.
- The first request for a FIFund (Facade Improvement Fund) loan has been approved by the Loan Review Board. If all goes as planned, improvement will be completed prior to Labor Day weekend.
- As of June '09, YTD Sales Tax Revenues are up \$37,021 (+13.2%) from a year ago. LB 840 revenues (SEDPlan) are up \$19,096 (+13.7%).
- A 2009-2010 Sales Tax Revenues Forecast was provided to Directors by Kem. Highly improbable the continued growth in sales tax revenues experienced during the current and previous year will be sustained. 2009-2010 Sales Tax Revenues may slide back to '06 / '07 levels.
- City Administrator's LB 840 Revenue / Expenditures Report (8/18/2009) reviewed.
- Public Safety was a topic of lengthy discussion. Recent incidents of serious crimes in Schuyler (firearms, home invasions) have eroded residents' quality of place and is fostering unfavorable perceptions from both within and outside the Schuyler community. As a result of non-residency by all but one of Schuyler's Police Officers, off-duty presence / visibility remains a non-factor in deterring crime. Response time by off-duty non-residence officers is a safety concern by many residents. Directors expressed appreciation and support for the efforts by the Schuyler Police Department.
- Tentative site visit by DED has been cancelled. The competitive preparedness of potential industrial site (87.5 acres east of Cargill) was discussed. Realistically, potential site is not prepared to compete for new opportunities. Directors gave permission for Kem to proceed with researching the feasibility of enhancing the preparedness of potential industrial site (87.5 acres). To achieve competitive preparedness, a financial investment will most likely be required.
- Dissatisfaction in the lack of lawn maintenance / overall general appearance of a few commercial properties along West 16th Street continues to be a focus of concern. The negative image projected by these properties tarnishes the entire community.
- Miscellaneous:
 - unemployment in July for Colfax County was 4.1%
 - 199 FT / PT employment opportunities within a 20 mile radius of Schuyler as of 08-25-09
 - number of Visitor Sessions at both websites has increased in the past two months

8:00 a.m. – adjourned

Next **SDC Board Meeting:** **DATE:** September 16th, 2009 (Wednesday)
TIME: 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
LOCATION: City Building