

LMD minutes for October 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Dave Fleming

All board members with the exception of Tami Fager were present with Tami excused.

Others in attendance: Commissioners Moe, Grobe, and Kinkaid, City Council Members Mayor Ray Beck, John Ponikvar, Tony Bohrer, Derek Duran, and Jared Ogden. Bruce Nelson, Neil Folks, Michelle Balleck, Tamie Thompson- Booker, Melanie Villard, Patrick Kelly, Neil Folks, and Kelli Richmond.

Dave Heinrich moved and Kirstie McPherson seconded approval of the minutes of the September 20, 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

Cirsa Insurance proposals were discussed and Roger Richmond moved and Dave DeRose seconded to approve and fund option #1. Motion carried

The position of secretary to the LMD presently has 2 applications. Kirstie McPherson recommended to push the application 1 week and Roger Richmond moved with Dave Heinrich seconding to extend for 2 weeks. Motion carried.

The communication committee reported on the letter of support to the Rural Philanthropy Days and the letter was approved and signed.

Grant and Funding committee had no report.

Community Pride Committee reported good results with the T shirt hand out with 200 being purchased and 12 left to date. Board members paid for the shirts and handed out at the Moffat County Bulldog football game to honor veteran's service.

Discussion was brought forth about the Rotary Club requesting LMD to visit and Dave DeRose and Kirstie McPherson will attend the November 1 meeting of the Rotary.

The meeting moved to audience for the Moffat County Board of County Commissioner and Craig City Council with the county first.

Commissioner Frank Moe provided historical reference as to where we all were and then proposed that the LMD make three priorities in no specific order of the Industrial Park, Artisan Manufacturing, and a Manufacturing Incubator. All concepts from the Better Cities study. Frank discussed the operating plan and encouraged the LMD to make the "Economic Champion" a priority before the 3rd quarter as the LMD plan states. Also preparing for implementation plans. Commissioner Moe also stated that the Better Cities study allows for Government matching fund dollars for implementation and provided information about DOLA staff that can help with EDA and other grants.

Commissioner Chuck Grobe complemented the operating plan adopted by the LMD and desired clarification on the committee concept discussed in the plan. Kirstie McPherson discussed our concept and how we might structure this effort and Victor Updike discussed the recent effort by the Community Pride Committee and the Veteran's effort as being a possible pattern for success. Roger Richmond responded that we might want to seek legal advice if there is a problem with the LMD concept. Dave Fleming discussed his concepts for committees and the need to bring more individuals and community

members into the effort to make the work progress and to involve a greater number of the citizens in this change.

Commissioner John Kinkaid also complemented the LMD on the operating plan and would like and “Economic Champion” as soon as possible. Dave Fleming question Commissioner Kinkaid on Senator Bennet’s Coal Reliant Communities concepts and what we should do to contact him with Commissioner Kinkaid possibly contacting Senator Bennet. Commissioner Kinkaid thought this contact was a possibility and discussed making that happen.

Roger Richmond asked who we are marketing to and what are we? What is our identity? Dave DeRose discussed the Commissioner’s visions and how that works with the vision the general community holds with emphasis on the need to involve as many as possible to create a workable vision for the future.

Craig City Council member Tony Bohrer discussed the “Champion” and encouraged the LMD to be careful to “not put the cart before the horse”. Councilman Jared Ogden supported the LMD with the concept of not micro managing and believed community involvement is a must for this to be successful. We must remain energy friendly with a concerted effort to diversify our economy. Victor Updike asked Councilman Ogden to define “what we are”. Councilman Ogden indicated that we are a hard working outdoor centric community and we should promote that. Councilman Derek Duran Discussed outdoor recreation with 3 distinct areas. 1. Promote existing events. 2. Create and encourage community buy in to the overall economy. And 3. Make Craig a beautiful place to live, play and work and make that a community involved movement. Councilman John Ponikvar agreed with Councilman Duran saying to make Craig Beautiful and also stated that he did not agree with the Better Cities study. Mayor Ray Beck wanted to build on outdoor recreation and to define and build on what we are and have. Led to a discussion on the studies that have been done since 1993 and the similarities in all of them including the Better Cities study.

Dave Fleming discussed his concept of an “Economic Champion” and what that meant to him. Dave DeRose discussed the need for teamwork using a football analogy about Peyton Manning. Kirstie McPherson indicated that we are our own “Economic Champion” The general feeling from the Craig City Council was that the “Economic Champion” was not a priority until we have defined a goal and tasks to be done by someone in that position. Councilman Derek Duran discussed that in his own words and agreed.

Commissioner Frank Moe used a Nike analogy for the studies discussed with the quote “Just Do It”.

Public Comment

Michelle Balleck discussed the things being done in Rio Blanco County and the efforts there. Dave DeRose pointed out that the 2 commissioners that were up for reelection were defeated in the primary and that may be due to not having the vision defined and supported by the community. Michelle also discussed an upcoming training she will be attending.

Tami Thompson-Booker defined her vision of Craig and Moffat County as a “Small to medium sized community with diversity”. She Asked “Who do we want to be”?

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM