

Minutes
FPDC Board of Directors
Tuesday, November 29, 2022
SD Municipal League Conference Room
11:30 a.m.

Call to Order at 11:30 a.m.: President Lyle Magorien

Board Members Present:

- Scott Deal
- Larry Cronin
- Kale Urban
- Michel Williams
- Shad Ludemann
- Lyle Magorien
- Kris Edwards

Board Members Absent:

- Dan Baldwin (excused)
- Jodi Carter-Clarambeau (excused)

Others Present:

- Mayor Hanson
- Rick Hahn
- Roxanne Heezen
- Sunny Hannum

Review & Approve for Filing of October 31, 2022 Financials:

No response has been received on the embezzlement issue. Next recourse is to seek legal counsel.

The second page "Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual" shows expenses at 83.3% for the year which is about right. Office expense is high at 115.9% probably due to accountant posting items of which she was unsure. Under "Other Expense" \$7,813.85 is for the Housing Study and \$5,000 was a donation to the Fish Cleaning Station. A check for \$283.32 was written to Larry Cronin for Christmas lights for the Log Cabin and the Dakota Emporium tree.

Interest paid in 2022 for RLF loans is \$81.28. All payments have been made.

A motion was made by Shad and seconded by Scott to accept the review of the financials. Motion carried by voice vote.

Review Approve October 25, 2022 Board Minutes:

A motion was made by Larry and seconded by Shad to approve the October Minutes. Motion carried by voice vote.

Reports:

- **City of Fort Pierre** – Mayor Hanson & Staff
Gloria reported that they are missing Vern but the crew is pulling together. City trying to preserve the loyalty that Vern showed. Many of the crew said the reason they came to work for the City and the reason they stayed was Vern.

The City staff and Council are going into 8 hours the next two days of strategic planning. They will be discussing filling five vacancies including the City Superintendent and vacancy in Public Works as well as three other staff.

The tree removal due to the emerald ash borer has been postponed due to concerns about tree replacement. Gloria was very impressed with the Christmas decorations done by Shane Kramme and Callie Iversen at Triangle Park. The buffalo are in need of restoration. She mentioned the Angel Tree fundraiser being promoted by First National Bank.

City employees have been given a onetime bonus of \$2,500 and a 5% raise.

Roxanne reported that the City is losing their two shop places in Fort Pierre and have to be out by January 1st. They are storing some items at the fairgrounds and using locations in Pierre which are not ideal. They will be looking at building shop space in Fort Pierre.

General Sales Tax through September is up 47.02% and year to date 10.24%. BBB is up 7.9% and year to date down 13.14%. Occupancy tax is down 9.1% but up 5.3% year to date.

Rick reported that they are finishing the lagoon work and working out the kinks. He is also finishing up the paperwork for the year and planning next year's projects. Housing permits are down at the end of the year. The new hotels are putting together their construction team and have submitted their final plans for review. Yellowstone Senior Housing will be done with their footings and foundation pretty soon and able to proceed with this very large project.

– **Tourism & Promotion Council:**

Sunny reported that they will meet Wednesday 12/7/22 at 7:45 at the City Council room and have completed budget and marketing planning for next year.

– **Stanley County Fairgrounds – Scott Deal**

Scott reported that they have a building donated for them to put over by the bucking chutes for rodeo secretaries and concessions. His first event will be Bulls & Broncs March 18 & 19, 2023 followed by the State BB Gun Competition April 27th or 28th, 2023.

– **Board Committees:**

- Downtown Development – Will meet 12/1/22 at the Log Cabin. Carlisle coffee cake will be served and budget spending will be discussed.
- Business Resources & Retention – To be scheduled
- Education – To be scheduled in January
- Housing – To be scheduled

New Business:

1. Approval to pay Sunny's Registration Fee to the SD Tourism Conference (\$250.00):

A motion was made by Larry and seconded by Kris to pay the registration fee. Motion carried by voice vote.

2. Approval of Membership Dues for 2023:

Dave recommended keeping the dues the same as they were in 2022.

A motion was made by Larry and seconded by Scott to maintain the current membership dues. Motion carried by voice vote.

Old Business:

None

Other Business:

1. Follow Up on GOED Housing Conference – Lyle & Dave

Lyle said he learned a lot and took a lot of notes for the sessions he attended. He was there for the entire conference but couldn't attend every session because of concurrent sessions. He gained a lot of good contacts through networking with individuals who were doing something in their communities.

Dave said he found it interesting who are the first time home buyers today. He said buying a home used to be a priority after marriage and a car. Now it is not. Young people prefer to rent and spend their money on recreation. Today, people who are buying their first home are 36 and older. In spite of interest rates, it is still a good time to buy. There is a shortage of homes and a first time home will cost \$250,000 and up.

Kris inquired about the infrastructure money available through SD Housing. Dave said it is locked up waiting for Legislative action (?).

2. U.S. Beef Processor's Meeting with GrowSD:

GrowSD have access to several million dollars through USDA to help meat and poultry processors. U.S. Beef has met with them about obtaining a low interest loan.

3. RLF Committee's Recommendation to Loan \$26,000 to Dan O's Marine:

The Committee met and concluded nothing more was needed to loan the amount requested.

A motion was made by Larry and seconded by Kris to accept the RLF Committee's recommendation. Motion carried by voice vote.

4. Request Return of \$500 Deposit Made to SD Housing for Governor's House:

Dave recommended that FPD wait to make this request due to an application pending for a Governor's House.

5. Facebook Response Update – Sunny

Sunny said she had turned to Facebook and the web page for keeping the public informed of activities, events and articles in Fort Pierre. This is due to the loss of the Fort Pierre News publication.

Sunny reported that she gets a weekly report on Mondays on the Facebook page activities and this week's report showed she had made 17 posts in the last 28 days with a post reach of 2,707, post engagements of 1,249; 20 new page likes, 27 new page followers, 249 interactions or reactions, 17 comments, 19 shares, 602 photo views and 5 link clicks.

Other than the Christmas tree event, she has had no articles to publish on the web page in November but expects one on Dan O's ribbon cutting in December.

6. Summary of Tree Lighting & Chili/Soup Challenge – Dave & Sunny

Dave said everything went well and thanked the City for all their help in getting the tree up and lit. Tim and Holly Carey had enjoyed throwing the switch to light the tree. Maier Meats had won "Best Chili" and Reg Nelson "Best Soup." He said \$506 had been raised to help someone with their electric bill.

Sunny said this was possibly the largest crowd that the event had ever drawn possibly due to the warm weather and number of teams and wagons. All five had come and at times were going both ways on the street. It was so nice that it was hard to get people to come inside and there was a rush between 5 and 6 p.m. The Chamber entry had run out of soup by then.

She said when Vern, Roxanne and Mayor Hanson had come to request FPDC change the date to a week earlier that she just couldn't say "No" to Vern who never said no to us. When it looked like they were short of chili to feed the crowd, she remembered how Vern had made chili at the very first event she helped to prepare for when it looked they didn't have enough to feed people. This year she estimated that 120+ went through the line.

Around the Table:

- Scott – He and Tony will be the sole owners of the Silver Spur by December 4.
- Michel – Black Friday was good and they are open 7 days a week until Christmas
- Kale – Owners of WW Tire were in town looking over possible building sites
- Shad – Glad to be back at FPDC meetings
- Dave – City has approved the FPDC budget request of \$65,252 and the Downtown budget request of \$1,500.

Adjournment: By President Lyle Magorien at 12:30 p.m.