

Minutes
FPDC Board of Directors
Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Municipal League Conference Room
11:30 a.m.

Call to Order at 11:35: President Dan Baldwin

Board Members Present:

- Dan Baldwin
- Michel Williams
- Gary Grittner
- Lyle Magorien

Board Members Absent:

- Kris Edwards (excused)
- Jody Clarambeau (excused)
- Kale Urban (excused)
- Shad Ludemann (excused)
- Greg Kenzy (excused)

Others Present:

- Dave Bonde
- Sunny Hannum
- Mayor Gloria Hanson
- Roxanne Heezen

Review & Approval for Filing of April 30, 2024 Financials:

Dave reported that three items on the "Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual" show a higher percentage due to annual payments early in the year. They are #601 Equipment Rent 91%; #606 Dues & Subscriptions 62.4% and #614 Advertising & Marketing 64.7%.

The loan of \$20,000 to Fun Time Adventures has not yet been posted in the financials so the Revolving Loan Fund is still at \$70,888.18.

No motion made due to the absence of a quorum.

Review & Approval of the Minutes of the March 26, 2024 Board Minutes:

No motion made in the absence of a quorum.

Reports:

- **City of Fort Pierre** – Mayor Hanson & Staff
Teton Island Business Development held their annual meeting. Their architectural committee met and approved signage for First Fidelity Bank. Pizza Ranch is interested in joining and Casey's has been invited to join.

Mayor Hanson attended the SD Enhancement District meeting. They assist in writing grants for big projects like Tatanka Trail and have established a Revolving Loan Fund for future loans.

She has also been in touch with Dean VanDeWiele, District Engineer for DOT. Island Drive will close June 1st to accommodate work related to the bridge and there will be a meeting with DOT regarding the 4th of July. A new railroad crossing on Hwy 14/34 is scheduled for 2025. Bad River Bridge is scheduled for repair which may require detours for wide loads through Chamberlain and Midland.

She attended a meeting at the Mni Wiconi water treatment plant regarding the replacement of the water (from the rec trail to Verendrye Drive) around Fort Pierre beginning in the fall. The new water storage tank is a separate project that will require a surcharge for residents.

Rick Hahn's appointment was not reapproved by the City Council which has left the City without an engineer needed for at least 10 projects. The assistant public works director will not be available for the next four weeks due to National Guard duty. The last time an engineer was hired, it took a year and a half.

A passenger train proposal presentation was made to the City Council by AMTRAK. The proposed route is through Pierre. Projections are for more travelers in South Dakota than Minnesota.

Roxanne reported sales tax was up in March by 5.51% and for the year 7.1%; BBB was up 3.03% and .6% for the year; occupancy tax was down 15.22% and -8.76% for the year. This could be partly due to all the construction workers that stay in Fort Pierre but don't pay occupancy tax.

The swimming pool is being filled today and opening on the May 31st.

– **Tourism & Promotion Council:**

Sunny reported that the group had delivered 275 of the "Tour Our Hometown" booklets to the Log Cabin to be distributed to the museums. She has also given a few to River View RB Park for their upcoming Lewis & Clark travelers.

Two Maxwell Strategies employees attended the Energize Conference to represent the tourism group.

– **FPDC Committees:**

- Housing – To meet in June
- Business Resources & Retention – to be scheduled
- Education – met April 18 and will meet again in the fall. SCHS students received \$302,000 in scholarships.
- Downtown Committee – will meet Thursday, June 6, at 8 a.m. at the Log Cabin

New Business:

None

Old Business:

- Consideration of providing \$1,000 from the Revolving Loan Fund toward a contract extension for Realizing Rural to administer the Child Care Grant. A motion to delay the vote until the May

meeting had been made at the April meeting. Board Action Required.
No action taken in the absence of a quorum.

Other Business:

- Dave **congratulated Mayor Hanson on her recent award** presented by Missouri River Energy Systems at their annual meeting in Sioux Falls. Her husband, daughter, Rick, and Roxanne all attended.
- Greg Kenzy has been reappointed to the FPDC Board to represent the City Council.
- **A Virtual Job Fair** will be held June 5th from 2 to 4 p.m. Information has been provided on Facebook, by email to FPDC members and by posting fliers around town. More info can be found online at the Department of Labor web site: dlr.sd.gov/virtual-job-fairs. Sunny will request a follow up list of participating businesses.
- **SDSU Energize Conference May 23-24:** Sunny, Gloria, and Judy Weisgram attended. They divided up sessions. Sunny presented a written report of the sessions she attended. Of most importance to FPDC were Lawyer Julie Johnson's presentation on legal issues affecting economic development organizations and the GrowSpink housing project. Sunny's complete report is available at the office.
- **Verendrye Museum Ribbon Cutting:** Eight people attended the FPDC ribbon cutting at 10 a.m. Friday, May 24th. Both radio stations were there and Zach Nelson of KCCR conducted a long interview with Deb Schiefelbein that was shared on their Facebook page along with many pictures.
- Dave thanked Dan Baldwin for presenting the four FPDC scholarships May 14th.
- **Shane's Pharmacy** has done a lot of work to prepare their space for rent: floors, electric, bathrooms etc.
- Mayor Hanson reported that an estimated 5,000 people attended the **"Let Freedom Fly" Air Show**. All proceeds after expenses were to go to United Way. The ticketed event cost \$25 a ticket.
- **Facebook/Web Update:** Sunny reported that for the 28 days from April 28 – May 25, there was a post reach of 2,741 and a post engagement of 548, 4 new page likes, and 812 followers. The largest number of visitors to the page are still in the 35-54 age group and the top cities using the page, of course, Pierre 49.4% and Fort Pierre 20.1%. The Verendrye Museum post reporting the ribbon cutting received 2,078 views. She did a Facebook Live interview with the new UPS Store as the May FPDC Business of the Month and subsequently published an article to the web site from that interview.
- **Stanley County High School:** Dan reported that they have hired a new CTE instructor for welding and woodworking but still need an Ag instructor. They are still waiting for results from one grant application.

Adjournment by President Dan Baldwin at 1:00 p.m.