

**Minnetonka Economic Development Advisory Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 27, 2017  
6 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Isaacson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

EDAC commissioners present: Michael Happe, Lee Jacobsohn, Jacob Johnson, Melissa Johnston, Charlie Yunker, and Ken Isaacson were present. Jerry Knickerbocker arrived shortly after roll call.

Staff present: Community Development Director Julie Wischnack and Economic Development Housing Manager Alisha Gray.

City councilmember present: Tony Wagner.

Chair Isaacson welcomed new commissioner Melissa Johnston.

**3. Approval of March 16, 2017 Minutes**

Happe moved, Jacobsohn seconded a motion to recommend that the EDAC approve the minutes from the March 16, 2017 meeting as included in the agenda and modified by the change memo dated April 27, 2017. Happe, Jacobsohn, Johnson, Johnston, Knickerbocker, Yunker, and Isaacson voted yes. Motion passed.

**4. Transit Cooperation Agreement**

Gray introduced Steve Mahowald, of the Metropolitan Transit Commission, and provided the staff report.

Happe stated that he received an invitation to an information session being held next week regarding a possible 40 percent cut in services. Mr. Mahowald said that cuts would occur in Minnetonka if the transportation bill passed by the house would become law. He has not seen such a large cut in his 44 years working for MTC. A West End Route 9 Study was just completed and approval was obtained to increase service to the Greenbrier area this August. Extensive outreach would be done if cuts would become necessary. He stated that rider surveys are completed by the marketing department every two years. Comments are collected year round.

Councilmember Wagner noted that communication with MTC staff helps the city plan for trails and bus stop shelters when planning road improvement projects.

## 5. Metropolitan Council Sewer Availability Charge and City Residential Equivalency Charge Payment Deferral Program

Gray reported.

In response to Johnston's question, Gray stated that Brooklyn Park, Prior Lake, and Minneapolis have participated in the program and had good results.

Gray explained the SAC prepayment program.

Johnston liked the idea of the deferred payment agreement. Gray noted that the property owner must also sign off on the agreement.

Chair Isaacson said that it could help small businesses in Minnetonka and give Minnetonka an advantage when competing for small businesses.

Jacobsohn moved, Yunker seconded a motion to recommend that the city council adopt a resolution approving the Metropolitan Council sewer availability charge and city residential equivalency charge payment deferral program. Happe, Jacobsohn, Johnson, Johnston, Knickerbocker, Yunker, and Isaacson voted yes. Motion passed.

## 6. Staff Report

Gray reported:

- The SWLRT projects are out for bid and construction is still moving forward.
- The Cheesecake Factory will begin construction soon.
- The city council approved an application to allow improvements to the trails behind city hall and the addition of lighting to the soccer fields located on the city hall campus. The new lights would not shed light onto surrounding properties.
- The city council will review the addition of three restaurant pads to the Ridgedale Center parking lot on May 8, 2017.
- A liquor license for Total Wine at a location near Toys R Us is being considered at the May 1, 2017 city council meeting.
- A new trail will be constructed to connect Lone Lake Park to the existing trail.
- The city council introduced an ordinance for Minnetonka Hills, a proposed 75-unit apartment building, on Interstate 169.
- CycleBar will be opening soon in Ridgedale Center.
- An application to construct a monopole at the Williston water tower site is being reviewed.
- An application for an eight-person, residential-care facility is being reviewed for a proposed site on Eden Prairie Road.

- The city council approved multiple small subdivisions including Woodlands at Linner, Mayview at Copperfield, Tonkawood Farms, Eldorado Villas, and Williston Woods West.

Chair Isaacson asked if Newport Midwest had reported back with the cost. Gray explained that Becky Landon is waiting for the 2017 rental restriction numbers. Gray is hoping to contact the subcommittee members in a week or two with the information. Wischnack added that the applicant just applied for land use approval.

Gray continued:

- The disbursement of CDBG funds will be adjusted once the allocation is received. The city council approved \$4,000 from the development account to fund HomeLine and participation in the Fair Housing Consortium.
- The Small Projects Loan Program closed its time period to receive preapplications. Review of the preapplications will move forward when the funds from HUD are received. The Home Enhancement program provided four loans and Welcome to Minnetonka provided five loans in 2016, totaling \$98,000. With the 2017 money added to it, the fund has \$154,000 left.
- Council reviewed a concept plan for the Shady Oak redevelopment project.

## **7. Other Business**

The next EDAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2017 at 6 p.m.

## **8. Adjournment**

Jacobsohn moved, Yunker seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.