

FORWARD NEW RICHMOND

April 17, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Summer Seidenkranz called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken.

Members Present: Summer Seidenkranz, Heather McAbee, Susan Lockwood, Karl Skoglund, Cathy Longtin, Mike Montello, Tom Mews, and Paul Mayer

Members Absent: Rob Kreibich

Others Present: Ron Volkert, Thomas Weinmeyer, Bill Rubin, Beth Thompson, Mike Darrow, Lori Brinkman

Paul Mayer moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Susan Lockwood and carried.

Mike Montello moved to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting dated March 20, 2019, seconded by Heather McAbee and carried.

New Chairperson and Nomination of Vice Chairperson

Summer Seidenkranz explained that the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson positions for FNR shall be reappointed each year. Suggestions were - Vice Chairperson (Heather McAbee) to move to Chairperson and for Susan Lockwood to be appointed Vice Chairperson.

Karl Skoglund moved to accept the nominations of the new Chairperson, Heather McAbee, and Vice Chairperson, Susan Lockwood, seconded by Tom Mews and carried.

Goals: Selection of Focus Area and Establishing Next Steps

Summer Seidenkranz explained the goal ranking results and stated that based on the results, the obvious first area of focus should be Business Support. There was much discussion on Business Support and Livability (specifically workforce housing) and how Business Support and Livability tie together. FNR can assist City Staff by reaching out to local businesses and relaying comments and/or suggestions to staff. There was discussion on having a housing study completed. City staff will work towards getting estimated costs for housing studies for the next FNR meeting.

Request for Participation with St. Croix EDC in Small Business Week

Bill Rubin, St. Croix EDC, spoke of St. Croix County's Small Business Week, which this year is May 5 to May 11. During Small Business Week, Bill invites the public to attend stops at various local small businesses throughout St. Croix County. Bill has asked FNR if there is interest in a local business hosting a stop on Friday, May 10. Discussion followed. It was suggested that Bill (and whomever is interested) stop in the Chamber of Commerce on Friday, May 10, which is the date of their regular monthly Chamber Coffee. Summer will mention this to Rob Kreibich, Chamber of Commerce Director, as he was not able to attend today's FNR meeting. Mike Montello will ask the Mayor at the next Council Worksession if he could proclaim May 5 – May 11 New Richmond's Small Business Week.

Updates on Development Projects

Beth Thompson gave updates on the various business projects including Phillips Medisize, Foster Place (PRE/3), LWT, New Richmond Housing Authority, State Farm Building, and Doar, Drill & Skow.

Karl Skoglund moved to amend the agenda to discuss Communications/Miscellaneous prior to going into Closed Session, seconded by Paul Mayer and carried.

Communications/Miscellaneous

- There were no responses to the Richmond Crossing Request for Proposals. At this time no further action will take place.
- Business/Tech Park Covenant Update: Richmond Way Covenants and Set 2 Covenants have been terminated; Set 1 Covenants need two more signatures and City Council approval to be terminated.
- There will be a Community Conversation at WITC on Tuesday, April 23, regarding the recent Re-Zoning Request. It will run from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- Paul Mayer and Tom Mews have committed to being on the FNR board for three more years.

Closed Session

Cathy Longtin moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(e), seconded by Heather McAbee and carried.

Open Session

Paul Mayer moved to approve City Staff to reach out to applicant and offer Option 1 as discussed in Closed Session, seconded by Susan Lockwood and carried.

Paul Mayer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heather McAbee and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lori Brinkman.