

CITY OF COLUMBUS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2015

The November 12, 2015 Economic Development Authority meeting for the City of Columbus was called to order at 6:13 p.m. by President Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were EDA Commissioners, Tracie Wilson, Denny Peterson, Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine, and Bill Krebs, Executive Director Elizabeth Mursko, Attorney Jacob Steen, and Assistant Secretary Lorie Lemieux.

Also in attendance: Jody Krebs and Jesse Preiner

APPROVAL – MINUTES September 9, 2015 EDA minutes

Motion by Duraine to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2015 EDA meeting as written. Second by Daly. Motion carried.

APPROVAL – MINUTES October 28, 2015 EDA minutes

Motion by Duraine to approve the Minutes of the October 28, 2015 EDA meeting as written. Second by Krebs. Motion carried.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Duraine to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by Krebs. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Executive Director Mursko, informed the President and Commissioners that Ms. Kathy Anderson will present her Commercial Retail concept plan in regards to the NE Quadrant of the City owned freeway district property during the November 23, 2015 City Council meeting.

Additionally, Mursko stated that she has received a tentative date for the Senate Capital Investment Committee site tour which is scheduled for December 1st at 10:00 a.m. Running Aces has been selected as the tentative location; however confirmation of this location will be received in the next week. This will be the committee that determines if the City receives the funds for this bridge project. Povolny commented that he felt it would be important to have the DOT determine the bridge has a lower weight limit it did when it initially was built, whereas they would have to de-rate the bridge. Mursko shared a brief summary of the Metropolitan Council Transportation Advisory Board meeting that she attended with Engineer Bohrer, whereas Anoka County presented all the transportation projects, Columbus being one of five projects, to the committee for informational purposes. Mursko added that Doug Fisher and Bohrer presented Columbus's project to the committee.

OPEN BUSINESS

- **Columbus Marketing Brochure Proposal**

A copy of the 2009 Columbus Retail Trade Area Demographic Characteristics and Retail Sales Potential report prepared by McComb Group, LTD was included in the agenda packet for review. The McCombs Group has provided a price of \$2,000.00 to draft a similar report using the updated

information derived from the recent study. This information would then be available along with the concept layout that Ms. Anderson will be providing a marketing tool for developing a marketing brochure to have available to potential developers.

Motion by Peterson to approve an updated Columbus Retail Trade Area Demographics summary report by the McCombs group for \$2,000.00. Second by Duraine. Votes as follows: Wilson – aye; Peterson - aye; Daly - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - nay. Motion Carries.

COMMISSION OPEN DISCUSSION

Commissioner Wilson inquired about the available “usable” land in the freeway district that is for sale. Mursko clarified that there is 85 acres of land available, with 40 “usable” acres. However, each quadrant varies in useable acres because of wetlands. Mursko stated that the NE quadrant has the least amount of wetlands creating about 18 acres of usable/developable acres, therefore the most valuable. Wilson asked if there was a break bottom price to be able to offer to get an initial developer in to initiate development. Mursko reiterated the biggest hurdle right now is the uncertainty of the bridge for the commercial retail property and roads and utilities improvements.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mursko inquired if the EDA is interested in participating in Columbiz Event next year. Commissioners Daly and Krebs felt it was important to keep this event going. President Povolny stated he thought it was a great event last year and liked the new format. Daly commented that there was a good amount of interaction happening around the tables which resulted in ideas and thoughts being exchanged. The consensus was to provide this event to the business owners again in 2016.

Treasurer's Report

100 EDA General Fund Loan	\$(1,007,415.68)
240 EDA Fund	\$ 5,395.84

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 13, 2016 6:00 pm

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Duraine to adjourn. Second by Daly. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Lemieux/Recording Secretary