

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Village of Plymouth

Economic Development Committee Minutes

April 11, 2022

Economic Development Committee on April 11, 2022 at 5:30pm. The following were present:

Committee Members: Mayor Fryman; Mrs. Moore (Chair); Mrs. Carter.

Employees and other Councilmembers: DiAnn Jamerson, Fiscal Officer;

James Burton, Administrator; Rebekah Fearing, Tax/Court Clerk.

Visitors: None

Mrs. Moore called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Moore opened with information on the DART program. She stated she spoke with the Director and the earliest they would be able to come for a visit is July, possibly even the fall of this year. They help assess the current conditions in terms of real estate, organizational capacity, marketing, public space, events, and existing plans. The biggest job will be getting individuals to be part of the organization and to form a board of directors and dedicating the necessary time requirement. The dedicated time requirement would be two to three years. We would need 10-18 people overall involved.

The cost is \$5,000.00. It looks at broad range of the community.

It was discussed that they should find out from Council if they feel this is something they would like to do.

Asked individuals in attendance to review it and look into it.

Next discussion took place on Norwalk Economic Development and Regional Incubator for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship (RISE).

RISE, Regional Incubator for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship, is operated by ECEDC, NEDC and BGSU Firelands. The RISE program offers support for entrepreneurs and businesses by linking them to a wide range of assistance and skilled providers with expertise in business start-up, development, and acceleration.

It was asked if they have resources for businesses. It was stated they do not fund anything.

Mrs. Moore stated she received late Saturday night information on a grant for non-occupied buildings. They help restore/maintain buildings. It was due on Sunday, the day after she received the information. She stated this is done every year and something to keep in mind for next year.

The Mayor is currently working with Huron County Economic Development on the Community Reinvestment Act. More information to come on this.

Mrs. Moore to look into other grants for the downtown area.

It was suggested to start with small projects to show a change.

The next discussion was on vacant property registration ordinance (VPRO).

It was stated this might be a good place to start.

Mrs. Moore spoke with Michael Day, owner of the old bank building on the square. Currently the tenant is purchasing on land contract. He is giving the tenant to the end of April to have it paid off. It is currently being used as storage. There is currently another party interested in the property.

The next steps for the VPRO, would be to speak with the Solicitor regarding a template of the ordinance, write letters to the owners of the property so they know this is in the works. Mrs. Moore stated she will write the letter.

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Discussion took place on the Community Reinvestment Act. Mayor Fryman stated she is hoping to have a proposal in the next month.

Mrs. Carter asked if it is typical that a Village provides resources or is that the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Fryman stated the Chamber in the past made small donations to community events. They would meet and discuss issues then bring them to Council. The Chamber is to attract and create a healthy business atmosphere.

Mrs. Moore suggested to start and focus on the VPRO.

It was suggested to arrange a meeting with Village Rules and Administration regarding the VPRO.

The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on May 16th at 5:30.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


DiAnn Jamerson, MMC, Fiscal Officer