



EDA Minutes: February 24, 2014

Board Members Present: John Prigge, Jon Nienow, Russ Buege, Larry Rupprecht, Phil Kalmes, John Stiles at 5:06

Others Present: Brian Moehnke, Natalie Siderius Winona County EDA Director

Absent: Sharon Trester

Board Meeting begins at 5:01 in the Senior Center.

1. **Agenda Review:** Agenda approved unanimously
2. **January Minutes Review:** One correction to be made on a vote, the vote was not a swing vote.
3. **Nature Preserve & Ponds:** Brian has set up a meeting with Jason Gilman of Winona County Planning to find out what they can do to help move this project along.
4. **Old Main City Hall:** Yaggy Colby (now SEH) planned on coming last week, but was unable to because of weather. They are scheduled to come Thursday, 2/27.
5. **Branding Lewiston:** Natalie Siderius of Winona County EDA gave a presentation (Powerpoint) on how cities use branding. Takeaways; there is no data to prove whether it does or doesn't work. We will need to gather the community, (future subcommittee like trails?) go through our history, present and future. The branding is an all-around community action, from businesses to City & School.
6. **Highway 14 Corridor:** Paperwork was passed through City Council, waiting to hear from more bids as the weather has not cooperated.
7. **Trails Plan:** Larry & Russ agreed that is ready for the City Council.
  - a. A recommendation has been passed unanimously by the EDA for the City Council to adopt the Trails Plan for the City of Lewiston.
8. **Chamber of Commerce Realty Meeting:** Brian gave a report on how there was an improvement over the 2012 to 2013 residential sales, less foreclosures across the County, and very few commercial transactions across the County. Brian said there was a question on why Lewiston doesn't have more lots, the answer lays in the current projects the City is currently engaged in; water, roads, and ems building. The EDA wants more residential lots, but will need landowners and private developers interest and capital first.
9. **Other Business:** Sarnia Realty is looking for renters in their business building. The topic of policing options came up.
  - a. The EDA makes a recommendation of 4 votes to 2 abstained; to continue full time police protection in the City of Lewiston for the purpose of long term economic development.