

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The City of Ramsey Economic Development Authority (EDA) conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Member Glen Hardin  
                          Member Dominic Kanaventi  
                          Member LeAnn Lambrecht  
                          Member Chris Riley

Members Absent:     Chairperson Jim Steffen  
                          Member Brian Burandt  
                          Member John LeTourneau

Also Present:         Sean Sullivan, Economic Development Manager  
                          Tim Gladhill, Community Development Director  
                          Kurt Ulrich, City Administrator

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Member Riley called the Economic Development Authority meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Motion by Member Hardin, seconded by Member Kanaventi, to appoint Member Riley as Acting Chairperson.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson Riley, Members Hardin, Kanaventi, and Lambrecht. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Steffen and Members Burandt and LeTourneau.

**2.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Member Hardin, seconded by Member Lambrecht, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson Riley, Members Hardin, Lambrecht, and Kanaventi. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Steffen and Members Burandt and LeTourneau.

**3.     APPROVE MINUTES**

**3.01:   Approve Meeting Minutes Dated October 11, 2018**

Motion by Member Hardin, seconded by Member Riley, to approve the October 11, 2018, minutes as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson Riley, Members Hardin, Kanaventi, and Lambrecht. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Steffen and Members Burandt and LeTourneau.

#### **4. EDA BUSINESS**

##### **4.01: 2019 Annual EDA Business Expo: Select Venue and Date**

Economic Development Manager Sullivan presented the staff report.

Acting Chairperson Riley stated that in the past the event has been full at the Fountains and it would be interesting to have the event in a new venue.

Member Hardin stated that he would be open to either option but would like to hear the opinion of staff.

Community Development Director Gladhill agreed that the venue is tight, and individuals have had to be turned away because of lack of space. He stated that the event could grow if there is additional space. He stated that there could be more options for the event if there was additional space available.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that the area that would be used at Adrenaline would be larger than the space the City currently uses at the Fountains, which could allow the event to expand. He stated that there likely would be people using the soccer fields at the same time which could generate more participation to the City event.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that he attended an event at Adrenaline earlier this fall for the Ramsey Rotary and it was a good venue. He stated that it would be a good opportunity to showcase the new business and also invite more participation from the sports community and different businesses than have been showcased in the past. He stated that this would provide an opportunity to grow the event now, and perhaps even more in the future. He agreed that people from the sports events would most likely visit the City event.

Member Kanaventi agreed with using Adrenaline as the venue as it will provide additional space for the event. He stated that he has participated in a past business expo event and is was very crowded and made it difficult to do more than exchange information.

Member Hardin asked if there would be an issue with parking if there were other sports events going on at the same time.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that most of the parking is along the north side and perhaps the sports teams could be encouraged to park in the adjacent building parking lot.

Acting Chairperson Riley agreed that switching the location of the event would be a good opportunity to keep the event fresh and highlight a new local business. He stated that perhaps there should be signage near the Fountains stating that the event will be at Adrenaline and about parking at the location.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that the idea of bringing in builders and remodelers into the event was discussed and perhaps that should be discussed as well.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that he would be open to adding that aspect if there is a need but would want to ensure that they are Ramsey businesses.

Member Hardin stated that perhaps if there is space a builders/remodeler's section could be incorporated into the expo.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that the current EDA contribution to the budget for the event is \$6,000. He noted that additional marketing and materials likely be needed for the new location and asked if there is flexibility to go above that \$6,000 budget. He suggested that the EDA contribution to the budget be increased to a not to exceed amount of \$7,000. He confirmed that there are funds available in the budget.

Acting Chairperson Riley asked if there is a staff preference on the dates.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that the feedback from 2016 was that vendors would prefer to hold the event earlier than April 16. He stated that March 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> would be the dates he would focus on.

Member Lambrecht stated that perhaps some consideration should be given to the snowbirds that come back on April 1<sup>st</sup> and therefore she would lean towards April 6<sup>th</sup>.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that the previous year the event was held Easter weekend and he would discourage that.

Staff verified that the Easter would not fall on any of the proposed dates.

Motion by Member Lambrecht, seconded by Member Kanaventi, to select Adrenaline Sports as the venue of the 2019 Business Expo, to be held on April 6, 2018, and with an EDA contribution to the budget not to exceed \$7,000.

Further discussion: Member Kanaventi stated as a vendor attempting to participate, he used the zip code 55303 and was almost declined stating that he was from Anoka. He encouraged staff to ensure that addresses are being checked.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson Riley, Members Lambrecht, Kanaventi, and Hardin. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Steffen and Members Burandt and LeTourneau.

## **5. MEMBER / STAFF UPDATE**

The EDA reviewed the Staff Update.

### **5.01: Receive Development Update**

Community Development Director Gladhill provided an update on recent, ongoing and upcoming development projects within Ramsey including Cottages at The COR, LazyDays RV, Bunker Lake Industrial Park building three, Ramsey Elementary School #2 which will be titled Brookside, Affinity at Ramsey, and Greenway Terrace.

Member Hardin asked for details on Regency Ponds.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that is a self-storage project that has gone through many iterations going back to 2004. He stated that staff is waiting for the new builder to come forward sometime in the future once their plans are updated.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that there are 93 people signed up for the business networking event and anticipated additional attendees. He stated that the event will be held on November 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fountains of Ramsey from 8AM to 9:30 AM and is open to Ramsey businesses. The deadline to sign up is November 20<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the EDA meeting for December would be slated to occur after the last City Council meeting of the year. He stated that at this time there are no pressing issues that would require City Council action but confirmed the flexibility of the EDA to change the date to December 6<sup>th</sup> if necessary.

The consensus of the EDA members was that they could be available on the December 6<sup>th</sup>, if a meeting is necessary.

City Administrator Ulrich provided an update on the results of the local elections.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Member Hardin, seconded by Member Lambrecht, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Acting Chairperson Riley, Members Hardin, Lambrecht, and Kanaventi. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Steffen and Members Burandt and LeTourneau.

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sean Sullivan  
Economic Development Manager

ATTEST:

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Tim Gladhill  
Community Development Director

Draft by Amanda Staple, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*