



DOWNTOWN LAKEVILLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES –January 21, 2008

Attendees

Chris Pommerenke, Deb Pryor, Candy Retka, Patty Gruber, John Gruber, Kerrin Swecker, Robert Joswiak, Mark Hotzler, Roz Peterson, Nancy P. Smith, Mike Jetchick, Larry Werner, Judy Tschumper.

Facilitator – President Nancy P. Smith

Introductions

New attendees were welcomed and introductions made to greet John Gruber, co-owner of Kazolly's Sweet Shop, Pam Pryor of newly opened Keep in Balance Massage and City Council Member Kerrin Swecker.

Due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, some member representatives were absent.

City of Lakeville Update – (Written update from Adam Kienberger reported by Chris Pommerenke)

“The City of Lakeville continues to grow and experienced moderate levels of development activity in the commercial, industrial and residential sectors in 2007 with the City issuing building permits with a total valuation over \$140,000,000. Included in the valuation is the construction of 425,000 square feet of new commercial development including: Best Buy, Bremer Bank, Cub Foods, Family Health Medical Clinic – Lakeville, Train America and the new Lakeville Police Station.

The City also issued permits for 35,600 square feet of new industrial development that took place in Airlake Industrial Park in 2007. This included the construction of the Airlake South Creek Business Park, a multi-tenant office/warehouse development.

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008
Page 2

City of Lakeville update (cont'd)

Some upcoming projects in 2008 include development of new industrial space by First Industrial in their First Park Lakeville project, a new 57,000 square foot Brunswick Zone family entertainment center and the start of the construction of the new County Road 70/I-35W interchange project.

Residential development continued to slow in 2007 with building permits issued for 183 new single-family homes with a total valuation of \$48,703,000. The trend continued in the townhome, condo and twinhome market, resulting in 119 permits being issued with a valuation of \$17,475,000. An apartment building permit with 76 units having a valuation of \$5,950,000 was also issued.”

City Council member Swecker reported that the new Police Department building is scheduled to open 8/8/08. She also stated that there are prospects on a large parcel in Airlake Industrial Park for a large industrial development or a minor league baseball stadium. No formal applications have yet been submitted to the city.

Lakeville Area Chamber of Commerce – Candy Retka/Robert Joswiak

The chamber’s annual dinner is Monday, January 28th at Crystal Lake Golf Club. The “Business Person of the Year” award will be presented to Mark Hotzler of Metro Equity Management, LLC. The membership congratulated Mark on this honor and for all of the development he has done and is doing in downtown Lakeville. The “Ambassador of the Year” award will also be presented at the annual dinner .

The Chamber’s Landscape and Home Expo is scheduled for March 29th. The publication of the 2008 Membership Directory is being formulated; space for advertisements is still available. “Back to School Day 2008” is scheduled for Friday, February 1st at Lakeville South High School.

Lakeville Area Arts Center Update – No representation

ISD 194 Update – Roz Peterson

Roz distributed a handout “Minnesota Career Fields, Clusters & Pathways”, an initiative of Governor Pawlenty’s that establishes a model for high school and post high school students which provides a framework for choosing career paths.

“Facilities Update – (Bond Money)

After studying for 5 years, Wold Architects and the Building and Sites committee have come up with some recommendations for reconfiguring Lakeville North High School’s athletic fields. The fields are prone to flooding which caused homecoming to be moved to Minnetonka. Also when North was moved from grade 10-12 high school to 9-12 high

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2008

Page 3

ISD 194 Update - Facilities Update (cont'd)

School, it put additional pressure for the use of these fields. Currently the football field remains unused a majority of the time to protect it from wear and tear so it is in good shape for games. After years of studying other schools, artificial turf has become a possible solution to address the needs of our community. Money has been set aside from previous bonds since we knew this problem needed to be addressed when we went to the 9-12 grade configurations. The advantages are better use of the fields we do have and eliminate the need to purchase additional land which is costly. More and more districts are switching to artificial turf for these reasons. The district plans to rent out the fields with funds reserved for maintenance of the fields. This issue will be voted on at the January 22nd board meeting.

Budget Cuts – (Levy Money)

This is a prime example of the two pots of money that cannot be co-mingled. Due to the second levy failure, we will be cutting \$1.1 million from the operating budget. The proposed cuts include contingency positions, support staff, services, supplies and equipment. The other half of the cuts will come in the form of increased fees from parking to athletics. The athletic fee increases could begin this spring generating \$80,000. We will be monitoring participation because these fees are on the high end compared to other districts. It is our hope that our Lakeville Boosters' Clubs can continue to provide scholarships for those who cannot afford these fees and we appreciate all the business support to these organizations.

Your school board has also been working on meeting with our legislators on January 30th at 7:00 p.m. at Lakeville South HS. As community advocates for our children we continue to work on communications, developing relationships and showing our appreciation to our legislators.

We also have been working on our school board goals. One of our goals is: Provide opportunities for all learners to reach their potential. We are looking at STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) initiatives and evaluating feasibility. Seventy-five percent of emerging jobs need science and math. Secondly, we are looking at Governor Pawlenty's 3 R's (Rigorous, Relevant & Relationships) - (i.e. handout distributed) which has emerged into High School Redesign. This is to help our students be better prepared for life after graduation."

Dakota County Heritage Library – (Written update from Murray Olson reported by Candy Retka)

"The annual reading program for adults called "Hot Reads for Cold Nights" starts January 14 – February 29. It is a fun, voluntary, self-directed program that is designed to encourage adults to read. Adults sign up at the library and then, after reading (or

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008
Page 4

Dakota County Heritage Library Update (cont'd)

listening to) any book they want, they can enter their name in a contest for each book read. Names are drawn weekly for prizes, including gift certificates from local businesses. Once a week we give away “prize baskets” which are a collection of gifts put into a basket organized around a theme such as cooking, etc. It is a popular program and many customers look forward to it. Last year over 400 adults participated in the program.

A special event, held in conjunction with Hot Reads, will be held at the Library on Sunday, February 24th at 1:30. Called “Literary in Lakeville”, the program will feature two local authors and a local publisher. They will discuss books and writing from a local point of view.

A related program for children is being held between January and March. The “Winter Read-to-me Club” is aimed at children who cannot read yet. For each book that is read to them by parents, siblings or someone else, the child can put star stickers on a “mouse and cheese wedge” that goes up onto the bulletin board in the children’s area. The club ends with a finale celebration on March 31 at 10:15 and 1:00 with Wendy’s Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam music show. The club is a wonderful way to share the joy of books and reading with your children.

In January, the library is starting an introductory series of computer classes for adults. The classes will be 2 hours in length and held in the library meeting room. Advance registration is required. The schedule is as follows:

Computer Basics	Monday, January 28 – 2:30 – 4:30
Beyond Computer Basics	Monday, February 4 - 2:30 – 4:30
Internet Basics	Friday, February 22 – 10:00 – 11:30
Internet Practice	Friday, February 29 – 10:00 – 11:30
Word	Monday, March 24 – 2:30 – 4:30
Library Resources	Monday, April 14 – 2:30 – 4:30

News from Downtown Businesses

Larry Werner was congratulated on his hiring as the new General Manager of Thisweek Newspapers. One of his goals is to re-establish the “Discover Historic Downtown Lakeville” ad promotions in the Thisweek paper.

Kerrin Swecker announced that the Lakeville Rotary’s Taste of Lakeville is scheduled for May 15th. The time of the event has been extended an extra hour from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008
Page 5

News from Downtown Businesses (cont'd)

Deb Pryor has opened Keep in Balance Massage and is sharing space with Kingsway Chiropractic in the back of Larry Werner's building.

Chris Pommerenke reported on the Community Action Council's Domestic Abuse luncheon held on January 18th. There was a great turnout with an excellent speaker and author, Victor Rivers, who has been involved in sports and acting and spoke on the abuse suffered by his mother, siblings and himself with a message that it's never too late to turn things around.

Mark Hotzler gave an update on the remodeling of Tracy Hummelgard's Mainstreet Coffee Café in Holyoke Plaza. The Café is now back open and in a couple of weeks the expanded space to be known as Mainstreet After Hours will be completed. Metro Equity will begin work on submitting plans for Tracy's patio in back of her café. A new service corridor and new bathrooms are under construction in Holyoke Plaza. Flora Etc. will be reducing the size of its space and relocating within the Plaza. There are leases out on half of the space in the Plaza.

Metro Equity Management is working with the City and Dakota County CDA on a major redevelopment in downtown. The vacant parcel (Farmers' Market) and 208th Street, adjacent to Mainstreet Café, will be developed in to a project called "Market Park". Mark is working with CDA on trading some small parcels in order to square off that lot. Market Park will be repaved with cobblestone and will tie in to Pioneer Park Plaza and can be closed off for Farmer's Market and other events. A commercial building is proposed for the lot now used for the Farmers' Market. Work on this overall project will begin after the Pan-O-Prog celebration. The redevelopment project with decorative enhancements will run from the now vacant Farmers' Market lot all along Holt Avenue to the parking lot being enlarged north of the Post Office; this lot will have brick pillars with lights inserted in the pillars. The lot north of the Post Office is expected to be finished prior to the July Pan-O-Prog celebration. The expansion of this lot will facilitate more parking spaces for postal employees freeing up more space for customer parking directly behind the post office

Plans are also under way to renovate the exterior of Lakeville Mall including new signage.

Larry Werner reported that Kris Aunan, owner of Porch ... for your home, is opening a second store on Holyoke Avenue in his building to be known as Fairfield Trading Company. The store opening is scheduled for Monday, February 4th and will feature personal gifts, baby items, etc.

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008
Page 6

News from Downtown Businesses (cont'd)

Candy Retka announced the seminars “Financial Strategies for Successful Retirement” being presented by Discovery Financial Centers and sponsored by the Lakeville and Hastings Community Education departments. The Lakeville series are scheduled for Tuesdays, February 12, 19 and 26 at Lakeville South High School. Registration is available by contacting Community Education.

Nancy P. Smith reported that she had met with Lori Lieske from the Star Tribune regarding our past group advertising in the Star Tribune South under the “Discover Historic Downtown Lakeville” initiative. Because of the ineffective new format of the Star Tribune, this program has ceased. Ms. Lieske shared with Nancy the “Golden Gavel” on-line bidding program available to interested businesses. Mike Jetchick and Larry Werner informed members that they would be presenting an advertising program to the DLBA membership within the next several months that will revitalize the “Discover Historic Downtown Lakeville” group advertising program.

Other Business – Judy Tschumper

Ironman Bike Ride – The date of the Bike Ride is Sunday, April 27th (not 28th as originally announced). The event begins and ends at Lakeville North H.S. The DLBA, with a grant from Dakota Electric, will again produce and sell commemorative pins the day of the ride and will be looking for volunteers to sell pins and promote the DLBA.

2008 Preliminary Calendar of Events

June 18 – October 29	St. Paul Farmers’ Market
May 15	Lakeville Rotary’s Taste of Lakeville
July 4 – 12	Pan-O-Prog Celebration
September 17	Harvest Festival
September 20	Downtown Dash – Lakeville 5K
September 20/21	Lakeville Art Festival
December 5/6	Senior Center Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale
December 6	Holiday on Main

Wednesdays on Main:

July 2	Trinity Singers requested – Not confirmed
July ??	Battle of the Bands (during Pan-O-Prog)
July 16	Babe Taylor Country Band confirmed
July 23	Lee Engele Jazz Quintet confirmed.
July 30	Gloryland Gospel Band confirmed.
August 6	Mariachi Band – tentative
August 13	In discussion with ECFE Parent Advisory Board – possible date for Family Night and the Teddy Bear Band – on hold.

DLBA General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008
Page 7

Attachments:

The 2007 Year In Review.
2008 Meeting Schedule.

Due to President's Day on Monday, February 18th, next month's meeting will be on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH – Community Action Council Conference Room.