

Pittsfield Economic Development Authority
June 12, 2013

Meeting Minutes

In attendance were Board Members Mick Callahan, George Whaling, Pam Green, Larry Tallman, Michael Filpi, Christina Barrett and Paul Dalton.

Also in attendance was Doug Clark, City of Pittsfield Director of Community Develop, Beth Goodman, Legal Counsel, Tony Dobrowolski, Berkshire Eagle, Dave Cachet, PCTV, Cory Thurston, Executive Director, and Colleen Hunter-Mullett, clerk.

I. Administration

Call to Order – Chairman Callahan called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM reminding all present that the meeting was being audio and video taped. He informed the Board that the Mayor was called to Boston unexpectedly and would not be attending the meeting.

Approval of May 8, 2013 Minutes – There was a motion to approve the minutes of May 8, 2013 as presented, seconded and carried.

II. Development Presentation

Chairman Callahan informed the Board that the development presentation had been cancelled due to the absence of the Mayor and other Board members. He stated that the presentation would be rescheduled at a later date.

III. Committee Reports

Special Projects Committee – NPDES Permit - Ms. Green stated that since their last correspondence with EPA, they've been developing a plan to isolate the sources of bulk of the PCB infiltration entering the system, primarily the teens, since that appears to be the area with the higher concentrations. They continue to make progress and she believes they'll be ready by the September deadline.

Mr. Thurston informed the Board that the cost of this source identification is unknown at this time.

Pittsfield Life Science Initiative – Mr. Thurston gave the Board a brief summary of events to date, informing them that the City had only received one response to the RFP from Rod Jané. The selection committee determined that the proposal was highly advantageous and recommended awarding a contract him. Mr. Thurston informed the Board that he had sent a request for funding to Susan Windham Bannister and received a request to attend the Life Science Board meeting on June 26, 2013 in Boston in order to make a presentation to the Board. He stated that Doug Clark, Director of Community Development, Mr. Jane and he were planning on attending and making the presentation. He invited any interested Board Members to attend as well.

Mr. Whaling asked if the consultant was working now. Mr. Thurston confirmed that Mr. Jane is working without funding at this point. Mr. Clark stated that he's a consultant trying to win the job, so he's working very hard on the presentation.

Mr. Thurston informed the Board that a decision on funding would be made the same day as the presentation. He informed the Board that he may have to spend between \$2,000 and \$3,000 to develop a top notch presentation in order to assist in securing the requested funding.

Mr. Callahan stated that PEDAs has an opportunity to get this money and he felt PEDAs should do whatever is needed to get the job done. He also stated that some of the materials that may come out of this will have a shelf life and can be used in the future. Mr. Callahan informed the Board that Mr. Thurston had spoken at the round table and it went well.

Ms. Barrett asked if there were others competing for these dollars. Mr. Callahan stated that he wouldn't be surprised if there were. Mr. Clark informed the Board that it is his believe that the Life Sciences Board is not opposed to approving the funds they just want to know exactly what it is that they're funding.

Mr. Whaling asked if Nuclea had been involved in discussions to any degree. Mr. Thurston stated that they had been involved from a planning perspective, but not involved in the RFP process.

IV. Executive Director's Report

Woodlawn Bridge – Mr. Thurston informed the Board that plans are available for review and that MassDOT is scheduled to be here today to work on right of way issues, as well as future integration issues with City representatives because East Street traffic will be extremely important in the future.

Mr. Callahan asked if construction was still scheduled to begin this year. Mr. Thurston confirmed that it was and reviewed the five (5) impacting ERE's that effect the bridge construction.

Open House - Mr. Thurston informed the Board that he will be hosting an open house on June 25, 2013, which will be similar to a chamber event. He plans to open the gates so people can walk down into the teens as well. He invited all Board Members to attend.

He informed the Board that he had installed new signs that run along the fence on Kellogg Street as part of a beautification project and he is scheduling the painting of the yellow guardrail around the property to be painted by work crews from the Sherriff's office.

Other – ERE's – Mr. Thurston informed the Board that the special exceptions to the ERE's allowed for in the 30's, needed to be wrapped into a new amended ERE agreement. All easements granted on the property will require a new subordination agreement and that the last hold-out was Berkshire Gas. Mr. Thurston stated that this was a very lengthy legal process and reviewed Berkshire Gas's concerns.

There was a motion to approve the subordination agreement for grants of ERE's with Berkshire Gas Company, seconded and carried.

Information – Mr. Thurston informed the Board that PEDDA is required to perform inspections of surface areas and it was decided to do them all at the same time instead of separately. He informed the Board that PEDDA will need to spend approximately \$3,000 on repairing problem areas.

Ms. Green asked if this work affected the water quality basin. Mr. Thurston informed her that it did not affect it at this time.

Mr. Thurston also submitted the annual letter to EPA General Counsel regarding the annual report related to the covenant not to sue for Board review.

Mr. Callahan informed the Board that on June 26, 2013 PEDDA would be participating in Celebrate the Berkshires and asked Board Members to attend as well.

V. Executive Session

There was a unanimous roll call vote to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing real property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

There was a unanimous roll call vote to exit executive session. No votes were taken during executive session.

VI. Meeting Calendar

Mr. Thurston stated that he would poll the Board Members for a meeting date in July and he asked the Board to review the remaining dates for the year.

There was a motion to adjourn at 9:50 AM, seconded and carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Hunter-Mullett
Clerk