

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Development & Planning (D&P)

CHAIRPERSON: Merri Berlage

DATE/TIME: June 24, 2014

PRESENT:

Merri Berlage

John O'Boyle

Robert Heuerman

Steve Rutz

Ron Smith

RJ Winkelhake

Other Board members: Rick Dittmar

Others: Linda Delvaux, Dan Reimer, Katherine Walker and Jonathan Loiterman.

1. **Minutes** – John O'Boyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2014 committee meeting and the May 13, 2014 special meeting. Seconded by Steve Rutz and motion passed.
2. **Citizens' Comments.** Jonathan Loiterman from Green Star Growing introduced himself and discussed his company and its plans for submitting application to the state for a medical cannabis cultivation center. Loiterman is currently researching possible sites in northwest Illinois including Jo Daviess County. Loiterman and the committee discussed state regulations, which should be finalized in 4 to 6 weeks, and the military grade security that is required for this type of facility.
3. **Staff Reports**

- a) **Building and Zoning** - Linda Delvaux, Building and Zoning Administrator, reported that approximately 96 building permits have been issued to date. Delvaux reported she has completed the hiring process for a part time secretary and Jayme Knight has accepted the position and she is currently in training.
- b) **Economic Development** - Katherine Walker, CVB Executive Director, announced that Information Services Coordinator Judy Gratton will be retiring from her position and a reception for Judy will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014 from 3 - 5 pm. Walker reported that Stockton Kraft days were well attended over the weekend. A tour group from Japan was in Galena last week for a site visit, one gentleman represents a major tour guide company that is published in Japanese and asked for photos to include in his publication. Walker announced that the State has increased the amount of the Jo Daviess County LTCB grant by \$6,165 for fiscal year 2015.

Lisa McCarthy, Director of TCEDA, reported that she attended a tour presentation of the Wind Turbine program at Highland Community College. TCEDA is currently working with three companies from outside the state who are looking to build new businesses in our region. One of the businesses plans to hire 20 employees with salaries and benefits of \$100,000 per employee. TCEDA and the City of East Dubuque hosted a meeting of four industrial businesses located in East Dubuque and discussed the opportunities to expand and/or attract new businesses. McCarthy discussed that Jo-Carroll Energy and Dairyland Power are providing a rural economic development loan program to promote the creation of jobs and rural economic development. McCarthy shared a release from Governor Quinn's office which announced a major home loan program for first-time buyers in Illinois. Steve Rutz provided a report from the recent East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA) meeting which included discussion on Hwy 20 and Thomson Prison

4. Unfinished Business

- a) **FY2014 Strategic goals.** Nothing new to report
- b) **Update on touring Revolving Loan Fund facility recipients, Hoskins Lumber and Assisted Living in Elizabeth.** Berlage reported that she is working to set a tour date for sometime in September.
- c) **Update on Enterprise Zone.** Berlage reported that enterprise zone application for Prairie Ridge of Galena has been approved by DECO and the ordinances, resolutions and intergovernmental agreements have been certified to add territory into the Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone. Berlage reported that the Kim Ellingson, Administrator for the Freeport/Stephenson County Enterprise Zone, has stepped down from her position.

- d) **Discussion and possible action regarding amendments to Title 4 Chapter 6 Guest Accommodation Ordinance.** Linda Delvaux reviewed the proposed amendments to the Guest Accommodation Ordinance which were discussed at the May meeting. **Steve Rutz made a motion to approve an ordinance amending Title 4 Chapter 6 Guest Accommodation of the Code of Ordinance of Jo Daviess County. Seconded by RJ Winkelhake and motion passed.**
- e) **Discussion and possible action regarding the Jo Daviess County CEDS Committee.** Ron Smith reported that he is working to fill three vacant positions on the CEDS Committee and is looking for an individual in the East Dubuque area to fill one of the positions.

5. New Business

- a) **Discussion and possible action regarding the possible establishment of an ad hoc committee to review and consider possible text amendments to the Jo Daviess County Zoning Ordinance -** The committee discussed that they would like to see an ad-hoc committee established to review and consider possible text amendments to the Jo Daviess County Zoning Ordinance and a variety of members should be appointed to the ad-hoc committee from different areas of the County. **Steve Rutz made a motion to establish an ad hoc committee to review and consider possible text amendment to the Jo Daviess County Zoning Ordinance that were forwarded from the June 17, 2014 special meeting and appoint 9 members to the committee. Seconded by Robert Heuerman and motion passed.** Merri Berlage will contact possible candidates and provide a list to Chairman Smith for consideration for appointment at the July County Board meeting.
- b) **Discussion and possible action regarding an emergency housing text amendment to the Jo Daviess County Zoning Ordinance -** Berlage discussed that this item was not included on the June 17, 2014 special meeting agenda so no action could be taken. Berlage requested that this item be included with the other text amendments that were forwarded for consideration from the June 17, 2014 special meeting. **RJ Winkelhake made a motion to include an emergency housing text amendment to the Jo Daviess County Zoning Ordinance in the list of possible text amendments to be reviewed. Seconded by Robert Heuerman and motion passed.**
- c) **Discussion and possible action regarding applying for inclusion in a new enterprise zone -** The committee reviewed the Illinois Enterprise Zone Program certification application and instructions. For Enterprise Zones that are scheduled to expire on or after January 1, 2017, an application process will begin two years prior to the year in which the Zone expires. At that time, the Zone becomes available for either the previously designated area or a different area to compete for designation. The committee discussed that Senator Brian Stewart recently announced that DCEO is authorized to allow up to 50 new enterprise zones. The committee discussed the possibility of Jo Daviess County applying for its own enterprise zone. Berlage will contact Betty Steinart to see if it would be possible for Jo Daviess County to contract with her to help with an application for a new enterprise zone designation and costs associated with her services. This item will be placed on next months agenda.

6. Other Business

7. Citizens' Comments

8. Board Member Concerns

Next meeting on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 @ 7:00 pm.

John O'Boyle made a motion to adjourn at 9:23 pm, seconded by Robert Heuerman and motion passed.