

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Development & Planning
CHAIRPERSON: Vince Hasken
DATE/TIME: Monday, March 24, 2003. 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

<input type="checkbox"/> Alexander	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hasken	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schultz
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Berlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackson	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bielenda	<input type="checkbox"/> Lyons	

Others: John Mazor, Executive Director CVB
Janet Anderson, Economic Development & Planning

MINUTES

1. Minutes

On a motion by Joanne Bielenda, 2nd by Dane Jackson the minutes of the February 24, 2003 Development & Planning Committee were approved.

2. Economic Development

- a) Business New/Expansions/ Relocations: Janet discussed in overview form of the businesses that are being courted into Jo Daviess County and those that are seasoned veterans of Jo Daviess County who are working with her to expand their businesses and/or relocate them to other parts of Jo Daviess. Other projects are in the working stages, but because of their request for confidentiality she was not able to disclose that information at this time.
- b) Business New/Expansions/Relocations: Janet mentioned that one of the companies who received expansion funds will be digging the ground for expansion very soon since the weather is getting nicer. One of the companies she has been working with to relocate to Jo Daviess is coming along nicely.
- c) The Community Economic Development Workshop hosted for the County Board Members, Mayors and CEDS members was very informative and seems to have enlisted interest from some of the communities.
- d) *The tax abatement* policy is close to being completed. There are four components to the policy each having their own criteria for tax abatement: Job Creation and Retention as it applies to commercial or industrial entities. Capital Investment and Capital Improvement as it applies to a business start or an established business that wishes to improve their business by capital outlay. The planning and development committee approved the policy in advance of two of the components being better defined. At this time, those two components are being better defined and resubmitted to the members of the Planning and Development Committee for their final viewing.

3. CVB

- a) **Local Promotional Grant Approval.** After reviewing the recommendation from staff and the CVB Advisory Board, on a motion by Marvin Schultz, 2nd by Dane Jackson the committee recommended approval of \$10,204.50 to six groups as outline in the grant recommendation summary. (see attached). Motion passed. (budgeted item 906.11)
- b) **Review of Community Attitude Survey.** John Mazor presented the results of a recent survey designed to better gauge and understand the opinions and attitudes of Jo Daviess County resident towards tourism. More than 200 county residents were given an opportunity to respond to a series of questions. Participants were chosen at random and are representative of the geographic distribution of households across the county. An executive summary and complete survey results are attached.
- c) **Old Market House Visitors Center Update.** Discussion continues on the future of the Old Market House Visitors Center and Old Train Depot. Met with Bob Coomer with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency; Terry Miller, Galena Historic site manager; Mark Moran, City of Galena; Steve Hickie, Galena Area Chamber of Commerce; Duane Olivier, Jo Daviess County Administrator; Vince Hasken, Jo Daviess County Board and Harold Muchow, Community Development Fund of Galena. Many members of this group represent the “founding fathers” or initiators of this project.
- d) **Appropriation for Calendar of Events.** Based on modifications to the new calendar of events and a significant increase in the number of events listed in the printed piece, the committee reconsidered the original allocation for printing costs. On a motion from Merri Berlage, 2nd by Dane Jackson, the committee recommended the approval of up to \$7,500 for the printing of 40,000 copies of the Calendar of Event. Motion carried. (budgeted item 706.11)
- e) **Shuttle Buses for the Galena Triathlon.** On a motion from Joanne Bielenda, 2nd by Dane Jackson, the committee appropriated up to \$3,500 for the use of motorcoaches during 2003 Galena Triathlon. Motion carried. (budgeted item 907.11)
- f) **Shirts for the Galena Triathlon.** On a motion from Merri Berlage, 2nd by Vince Hasken, the committee approved the allocation of up to \$5,000 for the purchase of 1700 shirts for the 2003 Galena Triathlon. The motion also allowed for up to a 10% premium to be paid for a local bidders preference. Motion carried. (budgeted item 907.11)

- 4. **Community Planning Allowance Grant Agreement.** IDNR has forwarded a Community Planning Allowance Grant Agreement to Jo Daviess County. The intent of the agreement is to offset the loss of property tax revenues to the County resulting from the department’s purchase of land for Apple River Canyon and other properties. The grant amount totals \$84,511 and apparently requires no matching funds. Moines must be used for “capital facilities

projects” and must be approved by IDNR. On a motion from Dane Jackson, 2nd by Marvin Schultz, the committee recommends to the full county board granting permission to the County Board Chairperson to enter into the agreement. Motion carried. (see attached)

5. **Executive Session.** On a motion from Merri Berlage, 2nd Dane Jackson the committee entered into Executive Session. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.