

Town of Presque Isle: EDC Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2018 @ 2:30 p.m.
Location: Town Board Room

The meeting was called to order by Sarah Johnson, presiding for Bonnie Byrnes, Chair person, @ 2:35 p.m. Committee member present are Chuck Hayes, Beth Marohn, Sarah Johnson, Bonnie Byrnes, and Chris Wolter. Brenda Dyre and Mary Watkins were absent with prior notice. Guests present: Steve and Debbie Smith, Chris Stark, from Vilas Co. EDC, and Barbara Peck.

A motion to accept the agenda was made by Chris Wolter and seconded by Chuck Hayes. A motion to accept the minutes was put on hold pending Bonnie Byrnes submission of a section for the minutes.

Chair Remarks: None

Finance Report: Sarah noted that after the Broadband survey was mailed out, the EDC account balance is \$956.81. The Broadband survey mailing was \$269.99.

New Business: none

Old Business:

Downtown Planning;

- A. Ayres and Associates Timeline: No confirmation of a signed contract between the Town of Presque Isle and Ayres and Associates as yet. Chuck reported we are waiting for Lorine Walters, PI Clerk, and hopefully will have a copy soon. A July meeting will be scheduled between the Stakeholders representing the Town of Presque Isle and meet with Ayres and Associates when we get a copy of the signed contract. Sarah will check with the Parks and Recreation committee to see if they would like to include a representative. Carl Wolter will act as a volunteer on the Stakeholders Committee. The Stakeholders committee will meet with Ayres and Associates monthly for three months. Members of the Stakeholders group From the EDC committee are: Chris Wolter, Mary Watkins, Bonnie Byrnes, Sarah Johnson. Steve Smith and John McLean are at-large community representatives. Barry McLeane, Vilas EDC, would also like to serve. We will need to come up with an additional ~\$400.00 to fulfill the contract costs.
 - B. Chuck reported the County Highway Committee is postponing any work on Highway B until 2019. The idea is the do all of Highway B in one year and save the county \$500,000.00. The highway reconstruction will be handled with bonding and the Federal Dept. of Transportation is giving the states money for roads. 30% of this money has to go to rural areas. Also, there's a competitive grant available which the engineering firm could apply by July 19, 2018. The Highway committee meets mid-June and more to be learned at this meeting. Ayres could work with the county.
1. Connect Communities
 - A. Tabled for now. It will be moved back on the agenda to August/September 2018 EDC meeting (October 2018 grant request is due) or possibly spring of 2019.
 2. Broadband Forward Communities

- A. The PI zoning committee is working on an ordinance to designate Presque Isle as a Broadband Forward Community.
 - B. Early Broadband Survey results: about 200 forms were completed and returned. Results have not been tabulated and whom to get assistance from for this was discussed, with further discussion at the next meeting. Sonic Net would like to write the grant and have it ready to submit by the town by January 2019. It was felt that anyone who could use Excel Spreadsheet could help tabulate results.
3. Panfish Project Update
- A. Per state Community Fishing Guidelines, there's assistance with signage, we can choose fishing seasons, and there are no regulations. Emphasis is usually put on children, disabled, and elderly persons.
 - B. Steve Smith – (will) get together with a local DNR person to get a plan. Transporting the panfish from another lake isn't going to work in Wisconsin. Steve researched prices with a fish hatchery in Watersmeet, MI. The cost for 100 fingerling Bluegills is \$2,775.00 + \$104. 15 for delivery fee. This would fill about a 15-acre body of water. The prices went up from there. Chuck recommended we ask for contributions from Town organizations and also there is a Knowles-Nelson Grant that may be available. Discussion ensued whether there is a Land Use agreement for the North Pond. Carl W. will follow up with Lorine about the Land Use agreement with the DNR for the North Pond. Keep this issue on the agenda.
4. Canoes and Kayaks at Sensenbrenner Park
- A. Barb Peck from the Park and Rec. Committee reported they have been working on getting donations of canoes, kayaks, and rowboats for people to use for access to the lower pond. They have also researched price of racks for canoes and kayaks and they are quite expensive (\$500-1000.00), so will look for people (woodworkers) to donate their time to make these. The Parks and Rec. committee will ask to be on the June 7th meeting of the PI town board regarding this issue.
5. Bike Trails
- A. Steve Smith reported he received a response from Sarah Pierce re: whether these trails are available for mountain biking. She reported Mtn. biking cannot be the sole purpose and the signage must not reflect that. It has been done in other state forest areas (logging roads). This project could be promoted through the PI Chamber with a trail map, etc. Trails should be checked for obstacles, need adequate parking (3-5 spots). Steve will get a group together to inspect trails.
6. Valuing Vilas Co. Water program-6/5 @ 3 p.m. with Marquita Sheehan
- A. The program is a go and various committee members volunteered to donate coffee, water, and snacks. Word of this program will be spread by the Library, Newspaper, and the Chamber of Commerce.

II Pubic comment

- 1. Per Steve Smith-he requested that "actionable Items" for stocking the fish ponds and a master plan be on the next agenda (?) Chris Stark-Vilas Co. EDC reported he is

impressed with the action to date that the PI EDC has accomplished and projects that are going forward

III. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 26, @ 2:30 p.m.

IV. Motion to adjourn made by Beth M. and seconded by Chris W.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Wolter