

City of Winsted  
Downtown Vibrancy Commission  
Winsted City Hall – Lewis Room  
Tuesday, August 11, 2015  
3:30 p.m.

Downtown Vibrancy Commission Members Present: Ms. Nancy Fasching  
Mr. Chip Guggemos  
Mr. Joe Swanson  
Ms. Tami Rosenthal

Staff Present: Mr. Dan Tienter, City Administrator  
Mayor Steve Stotko, City Council Liaison  
Ms. Amanda Zeidler, Utility Billing & Payroll Clerk

**1) Call the Meeting to Order**

Ms. Nancy Fasching, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2) Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2015**

**Mr. Joe Swanson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Downtown Vibrancy Commission Meeting on March 16, 2015. Ms. Tami Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

**3) Staff Report**

**a) Introductions with Dan Tienter, City Administrator**

Mr. Dan Tienter, City Administrator, introduced himself to the Downtown Vibrancy Commission. The Downtown Vibrancy Commission members introduced themselves, as well.

**4) Old Business**

**a) Downtown Beautification Forgivable Loan Update**

Ms. Fasching gave an overview of the current projects that are participating in the Downtown Beautification Forgivable Loan program. Ms. Fasching asked the members of the Downtown Vibrancy Commission if they have received any comments regarding the forgivable loan program, and if they believe the program would be viable for another year.

Mr. Swanson asked if there is funding available to continue the program in 2016. Mr. Stotko stated that the City Council was very receptive to the current program; however, funding for 2016 has not been discussed with the City Council. Mr. Stotko stated that the Commission should discuss a continuation of the program and make a recommendation to the City Council for 2016. Mr. Stotko added that it is his impression that the City Council would likely support another round of funding.

Mr. Guggemos stated that he is on board with another round of the forgivable loan program, and added that he would like to continue the program in the same area; however, if no applications are received, an additional area can be added. Mr. Tienter made a suggestion to add design costs to the reimbursement guidelines, in addition to construction costs. The Commission discussed several criteria to consider for the next series of loans, as well as streets and buildings that may be included and eligible for the program.

Mr. Stotko reviewed the status of the Luce Line State Trail and how it will affect the City of Winsted and downtown area.

**Mr. Guggemos made a motion to propose a staged effort with the Downtown Beautification Forgivable Loan Program in 2016, requesting \$15,000 in funding from the Winsted City Council, offering first priority to the same properties as 2015, and if there is not enough interest and/or applications, the eligible area will be expanded to the entire downtown area, as it was established by the Downtown Vibrancy Task Force. Ms. Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

**5) New Business**

**a) Discuss Future Goals and Objectives for the Downtown Vibrancy Commission**

The Downtown Vibrancy Commission briefly discussed thoughts and ideas to discuss at future Commission meetings.

**6) Announcements**

**a) Luce Line Ribbon Cutting – September 26, 2015**

Mr. Stotko informed the Downtown Vibrancy Commission that there will be a Ribbon Cutting Event for the Luce Line State Trail on Thursday, September, 26, 2015, beginning at 10 a.m. at Southview Park. The event is open to the public, and everyone is encouraged to take part in the events that are offered.

**7) Adjournment**

**Mr. Guggemos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2015.**

*Dan Tienter*

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Dan Tienter,  
City Administrator  
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

*Amanda J. Zeidler*

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Amanda J. Zeidler,  
Utility Billing & Payroll Clerk  
City of Winsted