

CITY OF VERGAS EDA/HRA
Wednesday, January 6, 2021
9:00 am
Zoom Meeting

The City of Vergas Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) met on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom with the following members present: Kevin Zitzow, Bruce Albright, Vanessa Perry, Paul Pinke, and Julie Lammers. Absent: none. Also present: Barbie Porter of Vergas-Frazee Forum and Kurt Keena of Detroit Lakes HRA.

Meeting was called to order by President Kevin Zitzow.

Approval of Agenda

Approve agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Perry to approve December 2, 2020 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

EDA/HRA Goals were discussed. Guest Speaker Kurt Keena, Detroit Lakes HRA, reviewed both Detroit Lakes MN and Hastings Mn EDA/HRA goals. Detroit Lakes has a two-program focus. Hastings has a combined EDA/HRA and they focused on their Historical Main Street. Keena explained we need financial resources to get things done. Discussed goals of Vergas and what EDA/HRA would like to accomplish. We are looking at setting goals for the next two years and reset very two years.

- Housing goals need to include preserving the current housing in Vergas. Helping homeowners keep what they have viable
- Working with Otter Tail County HRA for resources
- Perham has found a way to get things done without using public funds and maybe we can get the group to look at Vergas
- Look at City Limit lines. (where do we have room to put things)
- Is there property available to spur building of homes
- Our goals and plans need to get specific to get things done
- Be open to opportunities
- What is the EDA/HRA tolerance of risk
- Do we have community support
- What happens to communities that lose their businesses? We need to learn from history.

Deed grant is due Feb.28, 2021, a plan for 105 E Main Street property is needed to apply for grants. Members stated they would not be ready by February with the plan for the property and would work on the plan for 2022.

Annual Information

Set meeting date: First Wednesday of the month at 11:00 am. for 2021

Members: One member is needed due to the death of Duane Strand. Encouraged Lammers to advertise on Facebook and in newsletter.

Budget for 2020 is not complete and Lammers will provide both 2020 and 2021 in February.

New Business-None.

Julie Lammers
City Clerk-Treasurer
City of Vergas

Council Recommendations

None.

Follow up Actions

Members are to email Julie Lammers with 3 goals for EDA, 3 goals for HRA and goals for the 105 Main Street property.

Lammers will combine goals and get list to members.

Lammers will send past goals to members.

DRAFT