

**City of Battle Lake
Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

The Battle Lake Economic Development Authority met in regular session on June 7, 2016. President Randy Dorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. with Commissioners Jeff Drake, Janet Schicker, Leigh Shebeck and Milt Paulson present. Absent were Don Maslow and Sara Boyum. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer/EDA Director.

Schicker made a motion to approve the agenda. Drake seconded. MCU

Schicker moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Dorn seconded. MCU

Updates for this month:

- Hatchery Row – there is word out that Russ Duncan has sold his portion of Hatchery Row. The group's understanding was that he actually just leased the building and the person leasing is aware of a possible future purchase.
- Network Battle Lake at Night has more or less turned into a planning session for Pumpkin Fest. At one the August meetings, representatives from NBL suggested there was not going to be a Pumpkin Fest so members could focus on the childcare center. There was some response that some business owners may help plan the event. From that point, a group of NBLer's and a couple of business people have taken on the event scheduled for September 24th.
- There was a lengthy discussion about the communication issues between NBL and the business owners. It was unfortunate that the business were not informed sooner than August that there may not be this event.
- Drake noted that NBL is about building partnerships and ultimately a daycare center would benefit most everyone in the community including the businesses. NBL is a group of volunteers that do things to benefit the businesses and the community. The commissioners all felt that we were lucky to have this group of volunteers.
- The proposed daycare/recreation center was discussed and how the EDA can help move it forward. A number of items that the group noted:
 - Was the cart before the horse in the purchase of the West Tool building? It doesn't seem that they were ready for that step. Now that they have purchase the facility, the focus has become the recreation center in order to cash-flow the daycare.
 - Should they consider looking at other properties? It sounds like some of this has been done. Maybe look at purchasing a home that was originally set up for daycare to reopen?
 - Communication seems to be a problem. There are a number of rumors out there and people just don't understand what is going on.
 - It would seem that the support of the EDA and the City would be more feasible if they scaled back and just did the daycare, maybe on a smaller scale.
 - It was decided that Randy will contact Mike and see about attending one of their board meetings to get a better handle of what is happening.

The council agenda and past minutes were reviewed.

Next meeting will be October 4th. Karalee Brandner will sit in for Martin as she will be out on sick leave.

Valerie J. Martin, EDA Secretary/Treasurer/Director