

## RDC September 2014 Minutes

The meeting was held at Beech Grove City Hall on Thursday, September 18 at 7:00pm. Members present included President, Donald Webb, Vice President, Ron Mote, Secretary, Cathy Chappell, Jannis King and Tammy Storey.

A motion was made to accept the minutes, seconded, and approved.

A voucher was presented by President Webb in the amount of \$9, 983. 09. Cathy Chappell made a motion to pay the quoted amount, seconded by Jannis King. Motion carried.

Donald gave an update on the NRP Group. Land has been cleared and dirt moved. It appears they are on track with their time frame. Reports are supposed to be turned in October.

President Webb called for a quick update on the sign project. Jannis King said she needs to see and evaluate the current ordinances for the businesses in Beech Grove. RDC attorney Robert Rund had a copy of the ordinances he gave to member Jannis King. Robert said it was a starting point. Not only do we need to decide what we would like to have implemented, we will have to make decisions on whether or not some buildings will be grandfathered. Jannis stated that Dr. Kaiser mentioned to the Beech Grove Chamber and they seem very interested in how the RDC is going to proceed.

President Webb passed out a hard copy of accomplishments by the RDC within the last year. He wants to present the information to the Beech Grove City Council. He also listed future projects of interest to the RDC: road repair, signage on Main Street, flipping houses, amphitheater, a digital sign on Emerson Avenue near the school entrance, etc. Secretary Cathy Chappell mentioned during her first year on the board, along with Vice President Ron Mote, absolutely nothing was accomplished. All members agreed the RDC is right on track for future accomplishments.

President Webb said he would like to work even closer with the Mayor and City Council and suggested we meet again to talk about how we can work together.

Mayor Buckley spoke about another phase of improving streets and sidewalks. He mentioned adding sidewalks along Churchman all the way to Arlington Avenue. He showed drawings of future projects which included entrances to get the semi-trailers off Churchman. The city wants to reduce the number trucks and Churchman to become more pedestrian friendly. Mayor Buckley also suggested that he would like to improve Grovewood Drive much like the work done on Main Street. He suggested we showcase the road: new lights, improving the street, new sidewalks, new curbs, etc. If Grovewood Drive is improved, there would be no street parking.

President Webb said he would like to present the 2015 RDC budget to the city council at their next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 6. He would like for the RDC to meet again soon to go over our 2015 budget.

One of the projects President Webb is interested in, is following through with the original Greenway Trail. Also mentioned was perhaps adding another shelter to South Grove Park. Jannis King asked Mayor Buckley if he had copies of the Greenway Plan. The Mayor does have the original information.

He stated grant money was returned, because the city could not come up with their part of the funding.

Donald mentioned he was hoping to have a special RDC meeting to plan our 2015 budget. He also wants the members to take a look at the RDC accomplishments and our future goals to present at the city council meeting.

Attorney Robert Rund addressed the members to reiterate money spent by the RDC must be within a TIF district or connected to a TIF district. He wants us to keep that in mind when planning future projects. Attorney Rund talked to the RDC regarding a California company buying the vacant St. Francis Hospital. The company will be given a 5 year tax abatement which will very much affect the RDC. However, the RDC will get tax money from St. Francis for the next 2 tax periods.

School Board representative Tammy Storey mentioned a day where school kids help the local businesses and get credit for community service, which is now required by the school in order to graduate. They must put in 20 hours.

Secretary Cathy Chappell said she will be meeting with Jeff Kingsbury, a partner at Greenstreet LTD. They will be getting together on Wednesday, September 24. Jeff will be discussing city planning, grant writing and what can be done with the information being compiled by Frank Nierzwicki.

Bruce Bye said Mr. Nierzwicki wants to present his findings to the RDC prior to presenting the finished product to the Beech Grove City Council. He was unable to be at the RDC meeting because of a family matter.

Secretary Cathy Chappell inquired about the three men interested in purchasing and renovating the professional building on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. President Webb stated none of the men were able to attend. However, he would contact them again prior to the October RDC meeting.

President Donald Webb made a motion to adjourn, Vice President Ron Mote seconded, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Chappell, Secretary