

**Business Development Corporation for a Greater Massena
Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2019**

Board Members: Ron Bacon, President Dan Pease
 Chris Herrick Anthony Viskovich
 Dave LaClair

Excused: Ben Murtagh Jeff Dobbins

Staff: Jim Murphy, Executive Director
 Linda Williams, Secretary

Public: Trish Wilson

Call to Order

President, Ron Bacon, called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

Minutes of the January 2019 Meeting

A motion was made by Dan Pease to approve the January 2019 minutes, that motion was seconded by Dave LaClair and passed with all members present voting 'Aye'.

Financial Reports for December 2018 and January 2019

The reports were unavailable

Jim will prepare an RFP for an auditor for the 2018 Fiscal Year.

Comparative Budget Reports for December 2018 and January 2019

Report were unavailable with the Financial Reports

Executive Director Report

Office Transition Update

The transfer of the phone is in process. Jim has pretty much decided what he will take from the DPW office to the Town Hall office.

Theater Grant Update

This is moving along; the paper work has been completed for the first reimbursement. Jim has encouraged all those involved in the project to try to pursue things more aggressively and to keep the public informed of the progress.

Ongoing/Future Projects

DRI/Moving Massena Forward (including assessments)

This group is being revived; they are compiling a list of what has been accomplished to date and what it is the would like to work on in the future.

LWRP - Water Street Project

This is a plan to develop a recreational spot on Water Street, across from the old Cornell's Dry Cleaning building. There has been discussion about an adult centered development area at that location, updating other children's parks throughout the village.

Public Transportation Project

There is work ongoing relative to a bus system through the area, though there are some areas that need further work. The route would cover residential areas, businesses, schools, grocery stores and the Casino at the reservation; the goal is to have the route be completed in two hours.

Vacant Commercial Property Inventory

At this time this list has a total of 73 buildings, which actually seems rather low. Jim would like to expand on that inventory so that it would include the square footage of each building, its current condition, potential, etc.

Restore/zombies 2.0/Land Bank/other housing projects

This would be a DANC project; the current inventory of derelict buildings in Massena has a count of 70, which also seems rather low.

Website update

Trisha is going to bring Jim up to date on the website and work with him to develop a stronger site for the BDC.

CORE - Merchants Association

This is the **Community Revival Effort**, a merchant group that would have goals separate from the Chamber of Commerce and not be in competition with them. One of the goals of this group would be to work with realtors to engage their assistance in overwrite the perception that Massena is not business friendly.

Doing Business in Massena Guide

Jim plans to work with the Town and Village representatives located in the Town Hall to develop a plan/brochure. He would like to see an emphasis on tourism.

RVRDA Grant (retriever training facility)

The RVRDA has approved a grant for a municipally owned lot for training of dogs. This is being pursued by a trainer from South Carolina where he is to hot in the summer months to work with dogs, so he would like to have a location where he could continue training during that time.

Municipal Volunteer Program

Board Action Items

Jim thanked Linda for her assistance

New Business/Other Business

Consultant and Liaison Reports

No representatives were at the meeting

Questions from the Press

No press member attended the meeting

Adjournment

Dan Pease made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm, that motion was seconded by Chris Herrick and passed with all members voting ‘Aye’.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Williams

Next Regular Meeting Date: March 21, 2019