

## **BIDPA**

**February 19, 2014**

**Members Present:** Chair Mike Caron, Dick Eastman, Sally Manikian, Dave Poirier, Jay Poulin, Peter Higbee, Dick Huot, Diana Nelson

**Members Excused:** Jerry Dumoulin and Andre Duchesne

**Others Present:** Pam Laflamme, Community Development Director

**January Minutes:** Mr. Poirier made a motion to approve the January minutes, seconded by Mr. Huot, all members voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

**January Financials:** Chair Caron went over the January finances and reviewed the expenditures with the board. The revenues are up to date. The current bottom line for cash for the January balance sheet was \$473,789.00. Chair Caron asked for questions from the board, there were none. **Mr. Huot made a motion to approve the financials for January which was seconded by Mr. Eastman. All members voted in favor of the motion, the motion passed.**

**Board Officer Elections:** Mr. Huot made motion to nominate a slate of officers for 2014 for the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer. The proposed slate: Mike Caron, Chair; Peter Higbee, Vice Chair; and Jerry Dumoulin, Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Poulin, all members voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Board Recruitment Discussion:** The board reviewed the characteristics and skillsets they would like to add to the board. There was a mention of someone from the industrial sector, especially Cate Street Capital as there may be synergies in partnering on business projects. There is also a need for another person on the board with finance skills. It was suggested someone who understands development with skills such as grant writing, fundraising, etc., would be a good fit as well. A resident or business owner from Gorham (or elsewhere in the valley) was mentioned.

A board member suggested someone in real estate would be valuable to the board at providing insights on trends and property values. There was a recommendation to recruit from the Bureau of Prisons community as well as someone involved with the Chamber of Commerce. A final suggestion was made regarding thought to the gender balance of the board.

A nominating committee was appointed. Councilor Diana Nelson, Sally Manikian, and Pam Laflamme will make up the committee.

**Mr. Higbee made a motion to go in to Nonpublic Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Land Matters, and seconded by Mr. Poirier, roll call vote was taken, motion passed.**

**Mr. Higbee made a motion to exit nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Land Matters seconded by Mr. Poulin. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed.**

**Ms. Manikian made a motion to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session until such a time the information is no longer needed to kept nonpublic, seconded by Mr. Higbee, all voted in favor of the motion.**

**Future Projects Discussion:** The board took some time to look at different properties in and around the City to discuss what the next project of the board might look like. There was great interest in inviting Cate Street Capital to an upcoming meeting to determine what direction they are looking in for the development of the remaining acreage on the biomass property.

The board was made aware of the potential for acquiring some land in the Industrial Park but it is something that will need further exploration.

A discussion about the update from White Mountains Community College (WMCC) at last week's City Council meeting was given by Chair Caron. Both Chair Caron and Mr. Dumoulin attended the meeting. There was invitation from WMCC to take a tour of the facility to better understand their current programming. Ms. Laflamme let the board know that they would all be invited to the WMCC Advisory Dinner in April as well.

**Other:** The March BIDPA meeting will be the budget meeting on Wednesday March 12, 2014. The April meeting will likely be scheduled at the WMCC, details will be sent in advance of the meeting.

**Public comments:** None

**Member Comments:**

**Adjournment:** Mr. Higbee made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Poulin, all members voted to approve the motion, motion passed.