



**West Fargo Economic Development
Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 3, 2022
3 pm**

The City of West Fargo Economic Development Advisory Committee met on Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 3 pm.

Voting Members Present: Marshall McCullough (Past Chair), Nicole Steen-Dutton (Member), Tom McDougall (Member), Eddie Sheeley (Vice-Chair), & Paul Matthys (Member)

City Staff: Casey Sanders-Berglund (Economic Development Manager) Malachi Petersen (City Planner), Aaron Nelson (City Planner), Rachel Richter Lordman (Communications Specialist), Eric Watne (Infrastructure Financial Manager)

Ex-Officio Members: Levi Bachmeier (WF Public Schools) & Ryan Aashiem (GFMEDC)

Eddie Sheeley called the meeting to order.

Marshall McCullough moved and Tom McDougall seconded to approve the minutes for September 1, 2022 as presented. No opposition. Motion carried.

Tom McDougall moved and Paul Matthys seconded to approve the Order of Agenda with the removal of the Vanna Adventure Vans Enterprise grant application. No opposition. Motion carried.

Casey Sanders-Berglund presented Meadow Brook Park Addition Tax Increment Financing application.

Tim Gleason, business partner, described the overall project goals. This is a speculative build out in an Industrial Park area. Currently looking at getting this re-zoned from agriculture.

Aaron Nelson discussed the announcement of the award of the 100,000 placemaking grant awarded by the State. He shared the plan to move forward to seek support to combine this grant with efforts to create an overall Downtown Master Plan with one area of focus being placemaking which would fulfill the grant requirements. This would also include three other focus areas: Business & Economic Development, Parking & Access, and Infill, Redevelopment, & Land Use. It is important to note that this would be on an accelerated time line due to the grant fund needing to be expended by Oct 1, 2023. There will be additional information to come as well as opportunities to participate in this study in the future.

Casey Sanders- Berglund discussed the child care project assigned by the City Commission. The overall goal of supporting this sector, understanding West Fargo's overall capacity and needs, responding to our citizens, and supporting getting people back into the workforce if possible. Current focus is on four main components that the



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city has control over. First, is coordinating efforts to support access to safety training at no cost for West Fargo Child Care staff. Secondly, reviewing all zoning regulations and proposing some adjustments to these laws that are more supportive of this industry. Third, is drafting a proposal for a Child Care grant for new and existing providers within the City of West Fargo. Lastly, the city is conducting a residential survey and a business survey that will close at the end of 2023 so we can collect data about our city to understand the capacity, needs, opportunities, and challenges. This data will be reviewed and used to share as we advocate for our community.

Marshall McCullough motioned and Tom McDougall seconded to adjourn the meeting. No opposition. Meeting was adjourned.

Vice Chair, Eddie Sheeley