Economic Health/Development Meeting Tuesday, April 5, 2022 5:30 p.m. – Parowan City Offices – 35 East 100 North

MEMBERS PRESENT – Ken Lambertsen, Mick Lauer, Jared Meibos, David Harris, Mollie Halterman (Mayor), Matt Gale (Council Representative), Stacy Gale (Secretary).

MEMBERS ABSENT – Cleve Matheson (City Manager), Corey McNeil, Todd Gale, Jason Green.

PUBLIC PRESENT – None.

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Ken Lambertsen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ken Lambertsen moved to approve the minutes from November 2, 2021. David Harris seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

ELECT CHAIRPERSON – Matt Gale asked for nominations for a Chairperson. Ken Lambertsen moved to elect Jared Meibos to be Chairperson. Mick Lauer seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

PURPOSE OF ECONOMIC HEALTH/DEVELOPMENT – The committee members introduced themselves.

Jared Meibos graduated from BYU in manufacturing engineering. He worked for a foundry in Spanish Fork for 8-9 years before he moved to Parowan and started his own business, Bear Valley Precision Casting. He has had his business for 9 years.

Ken Lambertsen lived in Alaska before moving to Parowan and was the general manager for a large industrial chemical distribution group. He was part of the State of Alaska Economic Development group for 6 years. His main project on this committee for the past 18 months has been the Old Rock Church. He gave some background and an update of what has been done on this project.

Mick Lauer moved to Parowan about 2 years ago from Boulder City Nevada where he worked for Bechtal Construction and has traveled all over the world working for them. He moved here when he was hired as the airport manager and FBO. He owns 8-9 other companies and partnerships which takes him from California to Shelton, Connecticut.

David Harris moved to Parowan when he was 21 and worked in general construction until got a job in cabinetry. He has been in the cabinetry business for 24 years and owns his own cabinet shop, Harris Custom Cabinets.

Matt Gale has been in Parowan for 32 years, and has owned a body shop, Premier Body & Paint, for 29 years.

Mollie Halterman gave a background on this committee, and why the word "Health" was added to the committee's name which is now called "Economic Health/Development".

Projects that have been worked on are lighting the Valentine Peak Sports Complex by Mollie, The Old Rock Church by Ken, and the cemetery self-guided walking tour and theater by Gail Harris. Also on the list are the swimming pool and trail system.

Mollie said we need to work on projects that have been started but have not been finished. We are a gateway community and could get funding through the Gateway Community Development Plan and the Patchwork Byway.

Matt asked what the main goal of this committee is; tourism, businesses, upgrading what we have. Ken said before Covid, this committee had momentum and each member had assignments in these areas.

There was a discussion on the problems with bringing in a hotel such as real estate prices and lack of infrastructure. Ideas on how to help such as doing the leg work for companies looking to build a hotel here were also talked about. Matt said the city is in the process of re-doing the water and sewer master plans.

Also discussed was utilizing the Valentine Peak Sports Complex by marketing tournaments and how it would help fund the lighting, and how motels and the RV park will help with getting tournaments here.

Parowan needs a marketing campaign to include what we have and include tourism, recreation, historical angle and appeal to different crowds.

Jared said this committee has come up with some great ideas. He said they need to brainstorm what projects we want to work on and what we are going to need to make those projects successful. Mick suggested to divide the projects into short-term, mid-term, and long-term.

OVERVIEW OF PAST PROJECTS AND RE-ASSIGNMENTS – Matt said we should come back to the next meeting with direction. Jared asked Mollie to bring the past projects that have already had the engineering done.

Mollie said she will bring the starting place on the by-laws for this committee, and the engineering plans that have been done for the park and trail that have already been paid for. She said liked the idea of short-term, mid-term and long-term because it gets hard when you don't see progress.

NEW IDEAS/PROJECTS – Jared suggested that Mollie send the committee the trails plan that they can look at before the next meeting so they have time to look through it and then come back to the next meeting with ideas on how to move forward.

There was a discussion on how to work with the city employees on projects.

Matt said communication is key. He suggested that Jared attend City Council meetings to update the City Council on projects that this committee is working on.

ADJOURNMENT – Ken Lambertsen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mick Lauer seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2022.

Minutes Approved at June 7, 2022 Meeting

Jared Meibos, Committee Chair