

Crosslake Economic Development Authority
Crosslake City Hall
November 2, 2021 – 8:30 A.M.

Mission Statement: To Develop and Promote the Economic Growth and Welfare of Crosslake While Protecting the Environment.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order: Dean Fitch
2. October Minutes Dean Fitch
3. Update: BLAEDC
 - a. Re-structuring
 - b. 2022 Calendar
4. Program: Region 5:
 - a. Environmental Update
5. Other:
 - a. City Council November 8th
6. Adjourn

Crosslake Economic Development Authority
Meeting Minutes
8:30 A.M. October 6, 2021 Crosslake City Hall

Members present: Dean Fitch, Patty Norgaard

Others present: Eric Charpentier, CWC HRA Executive Director; John Schommer, Brainerd HRA Housing Rehabilitation Coordinator; Aaron Herzog, City Council Member; Josh Netland, Crosslake Communications/ECTC General Manager; Bart Taylor, Riverwood Bank Regional President; Martha Steele, Mission Township resident

The regular monthly meeting of the Crosslake EDA was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by Dean Fitch.

A motion was made by Patty Norgaard and seconded by Dean Fitch to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2021 meeting. No discussion. Motion carried with all ayes.

Program:

Crown Wing County HRA

Eric Charpentier, Executive Director

Patty Norgaard introduced Eric Charpentier, Executive Director for Crow Wing County, Brainerd and Crosby. Eric introduced John Schommer, Housing Rehabilitation Coordinator. John described his role in helping homeowners keep their houses. He stressed the need for more houses, not to lose houses. The focus is on rehabilitation. The mission of the Crow Wing County HRA is to support the creation and preservation of affordable housing, economic development, and redevelopment projects towards a more vibrant Crow Wing County. The definition of affordable housing is housing that costs no more than 30% of a household's monthly gross income. How to determine the housing needs for a community requires the possibility of the city working with the HRA and ultimately helping the business community.

Challenges with financing, cost of construction, seasonal vs non seasonal, temporary vs long term, disparities between regions, infrastructure development or lack thereof and employee retention was part of a viable discussion. Some steps have been taken—Housing Study, homebuyers assistance and employee incentives. Larger homes are being utilized for seasonal bedroom rentals. Josh Netland stressed the importance of broadband in developments with more people staying in the community. Bart Taylor spoke about the Community Reinvestment Act, Opportunity Zones and how BLAEDC and the Chamber can help bring business together to address costs.

In determining future actions, starting the discussion and focusing on the Comprehensive Plan will create an effective strategy. The right message and education and a good thoughtful plan will contribute to solving the problems. HRA can be part of the solution. It is important to keep the community growing and focusing on what the community is good at and the opportunities that provides. Tourism is key and the reason why people come to Crosslake—water—needs to be protected.

Update:

BLAEDC

None

Region 5 Comprehensive Plan

Patty Norgaard send out letters to 30 people for comments, ideas, strategies as the first leg of the Comprehensive Plan update on the Environmental section with Region 5. Included were lake association members, community residents that were previously on the Comp Plan committee and

Planning and Zoning. The city council liaison, Aaron Herzog, will go through the replies and formulate the results for Region 5. The next sections to be reviewed will be Economic Vitality and Land Use. The people selected to review the sections of the Comp Plan are not random but have interest in the topics. The same process will be used to review each section. The goal is to create more definition in guiding the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Other:

Seeking Additional alternates

Still looking for new members.

Upcoming Events:

Next EDA Meeting November 3

City Council Meeting October 11

There being no more business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Steele
Volunteer