

## **DRAFT PALMER REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Planning Department Office  
7:00PM

Chairman David Swirk called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were members Dan Slowick, Joseph Turek and Alphonse Lasota. Also present was Nicole Parker, recording minutes.

### **I New Business**

Minutes of June 11, 2014

Motion was made to approve minutes as amended by D. Slowick. Seconded by J.Turek. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Accounts Payable/Receivable

Motion was made to accept statement and pay Fletcher and Sippel LLC a \$600.00 -Invoice # 01371-001 by D.Slowick. Seconded by A.Lasota. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Peer to Peer

Motion was made to table peer to peer subject by D.Swirk. Seconded by D.Slowick. Motion passed (4:0)

#### New England Central Railroad (NECR) Terms of Lease Negotiation

Charles Hunter of Genesee Wyoming spoke of a willingness to renegotiate current lease in effect until 2022.. There was discussion over the PRA's ability to get funding for upgrades that the rail is not eligible for. Jody Ray, director of rail operations for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, stated his support. There is more research and work to be accomplished before anything further can be done. Charles Hunter needs to contact the (Genesee Wyoming) corporate office.

Motion to table discussion for NECR/DOT made by D.Slowick. Seconded by A.Lasota. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Holbrook Site

D.Swirk showed powerpoint presentation from economic development conference. He stated he will tweak it and show it to Kathy Anderson to present in front of possible developers.

#### Service Core of Retired Engineers (SCORE)

The PRA was considering hiring an intern to develop a presentation to bring to high level executives; hotels, etc. J.Turek stated that he was familiar with the SCORE program and will reach out to them and see if there's an available service they can provide. D. Slowick stated that possibly Alice Davey, Palmer Community Development Director, could get grant money to pay for the intern.

Motion to contact SCORE and inquire into viable contacts was made by D.Slowick. Seconded by D.Sqirk. Motion passed (4:0)

Motion was made to contact Alice Davey to inquire about possible grant monies available to pay intern by D.Slowick. Seconded by J.Turek. Motion passed (4:0)

Motion was made to contact UMass to inquire about possible interest in interning by D.Slowick. Seconded by A.Lasota. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Valley Venture Mentors (VVM)

A.Lasota spoke on his recent visit to a VVM mentor night he attended after learning about it from the Economic Development Conference. He has become a mentor and thought it could be a good idea for Palmer. There was thought about OC White being a hub to allow start-ups and meetings to happen. J.Turek offered to contact OC White owner and inquire about free space available. A.Lasota mentioned possibly starting a non-profit company and partnering with VVM.

Motion was made to contact OC White and inquire about donating space to incubator businesses made by D. Swirk. Seconded by D.Slowick. Motion passed (4:0)

Motion was made for D.Swirk to contact Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to inquire about the possibility of establishing a non-profit business by D.Slowick. Seconded by A.Lasota. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Plaque for Blake Lamothe

Motion was made to table conversation to the next regular scheduled meeting by D.Swirk. Seconded by J.Turek. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Track Inspector

Motion was made to table track Inspector search by D.Slowick. Seconded by A.Lasota. Motion passed (4:0)

#### Next Meeting

Next meeting was scheduled for August 6, 2014.

## **II Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:20PM by D.Slowick. Seconded by J.Turek. Motion passed (4:0)