

Green County Development Corporation Board Notes

Friday, July 20, 2023

1. **Attendance:** Richard Thoman (AmericInn, County Board, City of Monroe), , Ron Schaaf (Bank of New Glarus), Joan Rufenacht (Green County Board), Lauren Freeman (New Glarus Administrator), Donna Douglas (Monroe Mayor), Nikki Austin (Thrivent), Doug Sutter (Keller Builds), Mike Sanders (Monroe Golf Club, 1100 Partners), Casey Jones (Brodhead Mayor), Dave Mosher (Mosher Insurance), Jane Curran-Meuli (SSM Health), Brittini Rindy (Monroe Administrator), Olivia Otte (Green County Development Corporation) Tracy Brewer (Green County Development Corporation).
2. **Call to Order:** Olivia Otte, GCDC Executive Director called the meeting to order at 7:31 am.
3. **Approval of Agenda, Minutes (November 2022), and Financials:**
Agenda: 1st Joan Rufenacht; 2nd Casey Jones
Minutes from January and February approved: 1st Ron Schaaf; 2nd Doug Sutter
Financials approved: 1st Ron Schaaf; 2nd Joan Rufenacht
4. **Events Update/Staff Update:** Olivia provided a brief report and update.
 - Current focus is on Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) meetings with investors and other businesses for future goals and services GCDC can provide. Housing and broadband are the most mentioned (broadband especially outside of the county).
 - If you have other suggestions or referrals for businesses to connect with, please contact Olivia
 - Events Schedule – Save-the-Date:
 - September 21 – Fall Breakfast event – location to be determined, outside of Monroe.
 - March 21 – Annual Dinner event
 - Green County Leaders has 31 applicants so far. PDC and Jack Links have joined again. 2023/2024 launches the first week of September.
 - Pop-Up Shop: trial program to begin once the lawyer confirms document details are good. This program is supported by a \$5k grant from Compeer Financial.
 - Contact Olivia if you would like to be on the committee to determine what is approved for what businesses. The time commitment is minimal.
 - Revolving Loan Fund – low interest loan support for businesses. We have begun a media push with a press release, and conversations with banks for awareness; next is Big Radio.
 - Home Construction Cooperative with MHS, SSM Health, BTC and GCDC will begin in the fall. The home donated by SSM will be transferred in August. Fundraising efforts thus far have gained \$30k for the project. Grant applications are moving forward, as well as conversations and planning with the high school.
 - Community Conversations: getting out to all communities in Green County to discuss needs, create awareness and work together towards common goals. The program began in Albany this past Spring.
 - Brooklyn: July 27 7:30-9:00 at Canterling Café
 - Brodhead: October 11 or 18 – TBD
 - World Dairy Expo is the first week in October.
5. **Community Roundtable/Partner Reports/Board member Business for the Good of the Order:**

Donna Douglas (Mayor Monroe): shared thanks to the interim administrator, Evan Teich and welcomed Brittini Rindy as the new administrator. She also shared textmygov, a new text app that will get answers for questions quickly.

Doug Sutter (Keller Builds): many projects in the works, but unable to discuss until approved.

Nikki Austin (Thrivent): offered thanks for support of high school vote and is grateful to move forward

Richard Thoman (City of Monroe): thanks to SSM for the great care in his recent health crisis. There is a wage study being done for the city to help employment hiring; openings include city clerk, treasurer and fire chief. Welcome to the new city administrator!.

Lauren Freeman (Administrator New Glarus): New Glarus primary school is moving forward with expansion planning. And new track and field work as well.

Dave Mosher (Mosher Insurance): shout out to the community for the high school vote and perseverance in tough times. He is excited for the Green County Housing Coalition with the available lots coming from the land trade. Also shout outs for the White Building and Monroe Golf Club and a reminder for the United Way Golf Outing July 21.

Jane Curran-Meuli (SSM Health): hospital volumes are unexpectedly high. The home donation to GCDC will likely be the first week of August, and they are also donating land to Habitat for Humanity for the 2024 build. Thanks for the patience as they work through the billing issues and resolve problems. Reminder for the SSM Foundation Golf Outing on August 1.

Mike Sanders (1100 Partners; Monroe Golf Club): announced that Fowler Dental Clinic has hired an administrator (Ronnie Anderson), and a hygienist. He is now back to being a board member for the clinic, vs. interim administrator). The golf course continues to get infrastructure improvements and it is going well.

6. **Next Meeting:** August 17 at 7:30 am via Teams.

7. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:08 AM 1st Jane Curran-Meuli, 2nd Casey Jones