

**ROBBINSDALE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER:

1. The Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority (REDA) meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Parisian.

MICROPHONE CHECK:

2. Complete.

ROLL CALL:

3. Members Present: Webb, Wagner, Blonigan, Murphy, President Parisian
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: Tim Sandvik, Executive Director
Rick Pearson, City Planner

#4A-B CONSENT AGENDA:

4. **MOTION** by Member Blonigan, seconded by Member Webb to approve and place on file the Consent Agenda Items #4A-B:
 - A. **Motion** to approve and order placed on file minutes of the following:
 - **Regular Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2023**
 - B. **Motion** to approve Disbursement Requests for **period ending July 11, 2023.****The vote was 5-0 and the motion carried.**

#6A: OLD BUSINESS: Home improvement Rebate Program with CE&E:

5. Pearson presented the staff report for this home improvement and rebate program with CE&E. Introduced income guidelines. Hennepin County and Minnesota are a little higher than the country standards. Program guidelines have been updated to reflect the EDA directions. Some eligible items have been added and some have been removed. Eligible properties receive up to \$4,000 grant, not to exceed \$8,000 in one year. Grant amount to receive 20% of eligible project expenses. Comments from EDA attorney included. Staff recommends additional language for home occupations.
6. Member Blonigan asked if air BnB, VRBO, etc. is there something in the standards that prevent these types of properties getting an advantage from this program.
7. Pearson replied that the EDA could tighten up the language to make sure those properties are excluded from receiving grants from the program. Limit on trusts that apply for the program.
8. Member Wagner asked how a trust could be an ineligible applicant. Pearson stated that a member of the trust might be living in the property.

9. Member Blonigan prioritizes those residents with lower income.
10. Member Blonigan addressed about ineligible expenses of attached appliances. He addressed sweat equity and what expenses are included. Miscellaneous documents...would like documents to reflect statistics. Executive Director Sandvik noted that Partners in Energy, we can capture this information.
11. Member Blonigan asked what is the budget for this program. Executive Director Sandvik replied \$57,500 budget.
12. Member Wagner inquired as to when will updates be provided to Staff. Pearson replied it could be quarterly or monthly but they are billing us monthly so they could give us an update then.
13. Member Webb asked if the wording could be changed from legal resident to United States citizen out of respect. Pearson replied that staff can look into striking the passage. Member Webb stated that it would be more respectful. Pearson stated that we do not have the resources to figure out who is legal or illegal.
14. Executive Director recommended getting property language from our attorney.
15. Member Webb clarified that the EDA should be clear on what we mean. Want people to know who qualifies and who does not.
16. President Parisian agreed with Member Webb that language does matter and the intent is to be clear and inclusive.
17. **MOTION** by Member Wagner, seconded by Member Blonigan to authorize the Executive Director to execute the Home Improvement Program Origination Agreement with the Center for Energy & Environment on behalf of the Authority with the EDA lawyer consultation on language used.
The vote was 5-0 and the motion carried.

#9A: INFORMATION ONLY: Project Update

18. Pearson reported that The Reeve is 95.8% leased and 75.4% occupied.

#10: REDA GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS:

19. Member Webb was pleased with the accessible ramp installed at City Hall. It is very nice.
20. Member Wagner thanked all the Whiz Bang volunteers, staff and all involved that participated.

21. Member Blonigan thanked the Whiz Bang volunteers. The car show, parade were all well attended. City Band, Ambassador Program and fireworks were all very nice.
22. Member Murphy asked where the tables and chairs in the plaza went. Executive Director Sandvik replied that there has been other events in the plaza, so they were removed. Member Murphy would like to see them returned.

Whiz Bang weekend was awesome. Thanked all the volunteers.

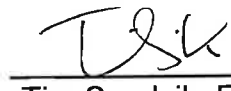
Recognized The Gerding Family that was involved in a terrible car accident. Police Department response was amazing.

#11: ADJOURNMENT:

23. **MOTION** by Member Murphy, seconded Member Webb to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

The vote was 5-0 and the motion carried.


Mia Parisian, REDA President


Tim Sandvik, Executive Director