

**Coloma Watervliet Area Economic Development Corporation
Minutes of the March 8, 2007**

Members Present	Representing	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	9/28	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb 1 & 2/13 Sp.	Mar
Cindy Aviles	Coloma Twp	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	XX	X
Olive Grady	Watervliet City	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	XX	X
Robin Jollay	Coloma Twp		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		XX	X
Barb Schofield	Watervliet City	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	XX	X
Sandy Kraemer	Chamber	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	XX	X
Dan Hutchins	Watervliet Twp	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	XX	
Vick Kinzler	Watervliet Twp		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	XX	
Jim Polashak	Coloma City	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	XX	X
Bill Smith	Coloma City	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Others Present: Cliff Stevens and Chana Kniebes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Aviles at 5:30 p.m. in the CWAEDC conference room.

Correspondence: Secretary Jollay read a thank you note from Cornerstone Alliance and Chamber of Commerce thanking us for attending their 2007 Combined Annual Reception & Salute to Business awards presentation.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Smith and supported by Schofield to accept the minutes from the February 1st, meeting and the February 13th Special Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Finance Committee: A motion was made by Smith and supported by Schofield to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$3,120.47 for the month of February as presented. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried. Smith also reported that the chamber has increased their Resource Sharing amount by an additional \$20.00 to cover half the cost of the coordinator's cell phone. This increases the budget by \$240.00 yearly and that amount will be put on the Education line item.

The municipalities have all been billed for the next fiscal year beginning April 1, 2007 and since the Chemical Bank checking account is low there was a transfer of \$2,000 from the Money Market account into the checking account. Smith told board members that this is his last meeting and that he really enjoyed being on the CWAEDC board. Aviles thanked Smith for his years of service and said that he would be missed.

Chamber Report: Kraemer reported that the next chamber meeting is March 13th 12 noon at the Friendly Tavern. The new map of the Coloma Watervliet area has arrived and there has been positive feedback from the community. Maps are available in the office and have been distributed by Kniebes to the municipal halls, tourist racks and other businesses in the area. The Chamber will hold their first ever Business Recognition on March 22nd at the Board of Trade. There will be a \$5.00 charge at the door and appetizers and dessert will be provided with a cash bar. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a brief program at 7:00 p.m. to award three area businesses that chamber members themselves have selected. If anyone is planning on attending call Chana so that we can plan accordingly.

PR & Marketing: No Report.

Coordinator's Report: (Full Report on File)

Michigan Works!: Kniebes highlighted a few of things that have occurred in February. Michigan Works! received a grant, and one of the criteria was to invite local economic developers and chambers of commerce to have a meeting to discuss a "pipeline" approach of what services are offered in our area for potential businesses, employers and other individuals seeking information. Each organization that attended is invited to submit a condensed version of services offered so that it can be put into a data base and used as a handy tool for printed material of what services each organization offers. The CWAEDC will submit information for this publication.

Watervliet Township Visits: Cindy LaGrow from LaGrow Consulting will be visiting some Watervliet Township businesses in the area since she is doing work for the township. She has invited Kniebes to schedule these visits so that the CWAEDC can be a part of the retention calls. Kniebes currently schedules the MEDC visits in the area as well. In the month of March the Watervliet Fruit Exchange and Orchard Hill Landfill will have visits.

Education: Chair Aviles thought it would be helpful in future CWAEDC board meeting to have a few minutes devoted to education. There may be things that are done in the office or meetings that are attended that everyone would like more information on. With the two municipal leaders coming on board next month this would be a great time to start this segment.

Chair Report:

Bylaw Amendments:

Chair Aviles reported that Kniebes met with Attorney Postelli and he made the following recommendations to the CWAEDC bylaws concerning the addition of Bainbridge and Hagar as a voting, non funding member for one year; A motion was made by Polashak and supported by Schofield to approve the following amendments to the bylaws as presented. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried.

SECTION 3 Appointment

The Board shall consist of two (2) members appointed by each of the funding municipalities, and one (1) member from each of the non-funding municipalities and one (1) member appointed by the President of the Coloma Watervliet Area Chamber Of Commerce. Terms of the directors are subject to the appointer's discretion.

SECTION 21 Addition of Participating & Non Funding Municipalities

If a municipality desires to become a Participating Municipality hereunder, the Board hereof shall make a recommendation to the current Participating Municipalities, who shall vote on the same with a majority vote deciding the issue.

If a municipality desires to become a non-funding municipality hereunder for a period of one (1) year, with the right to elect one voting member to the Board of Director's the Board hereof shall make a recommendation to the current Participating Municipalities, who shall vote on the same with a majority vote deciding the issue.

New Business:

Election of Officers:

A motion was made by Smith and supported by Polashak to approve the slate of officers for the next fiscal year of the CWAEDC beginning April 1st, 2007 as follows:

Chair: Cynthia Aviles

Vice President: Jim Polashak

Secretary: Robin Jollay

Treasurer: Barb Schofield

Chair asked board members three times if there was any other nominations from the floor and when there were no other nominations the slate was closed.

Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Ad for HP Tour Guide: The deadline for the HP Tour Guide is coming up quickly and since the CWAEDC has not approved a name change yet it may be prudent to be listed in there as CWAEDC. A motion was made by Polashak and supported by Grady to spend \$236.00 for a business card size ad. All in favor motion carried.

Miscellaneous:

Watervliet City: Grady questioned whether there is anything to be done about all the vacant storefronts in the city of Watervliet. Kniebes replied that she did receive a call in the office about available storefronts in Watervliet and this individual also had a question for the city clerk. This individual was given the information about the 0% loan for façade improvement for the downtown buildings and given the DDA number as well as the city hall number.

Community News:

Watervliet DDA Spring Fling: Schofield announced that the Watervliet DDA is hosting a Spring Fling Saturday March 10th from 7:00-12:00 p.m. The event will be at Demar's with a buffet dinner and silent auction. Proceeds will be used for the Independence Celebration in July. Tickets are available at the door.

City of Coloma: Smith reported that there had been a very strong odor coming from the landfill and he called and was invited down to tour the facility. The problem stemmed from an uncovered pipeline that was been worked on and that problem is resolved.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Smith and supported by Schofield to adjourn the board meeting at 6:04 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Jollay,
Secretary

Chana Kniebes
Recording Secretary