

**Coloma Watervliet Area Economic Development Corporation
Minutes of the May 3, 2007**

Members Present	Representing	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cindy Aviles	Coloma Twp	X	X										
Robin Jollay	Coloma Twp	X	X										
Barb Schofield	Watervliet City		X										
Olive Grady	Watervliet City	X	X										
Jim Polashak	Coloma City	X	X										
Chuck Owen	Coloma City	X	X										
Vick Kinzler	Watervliet Twp	X	X										
Dan Hutchins	Watervliet Twp		X										
Sandy Kraemer	Chamber	X	X										
Jerry Jollay	Bainbridge	X	X										
Butch Jarvis	Hagar Twp	X	X										

Others Present: Cliff Stevens and Chana Kniebes

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

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Polashak and supported by Jerry Jollay to accept the minutes from April 5th, 2007 as presented. Motion carried.

Finance Committee: Schofield went over the finance report for the month of April. A motion was made by Schofield and supported by Robin Jollay to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$4,618.58 for the month of April as presented. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried. Schofield also mentioned that two of the quarterly tax payments that would have normally been paid in March were paid in the month of April because the checking account was low and the due date was not until April. Three of the four funding municipalities have made their first quarter fiscal year payment in April. Watervliet City will not make a payment until July when their fiscal year begins and at that time will pay the entire fiscal year amount as they did last year.

Edgewater Seven Month CD: A motion was made by Schofield and supported by Polashak to roll over \$10,000 of the \$15,000 again at the maturity date of May 12th in the Edgewater account. The remaining \$5,000 will be put into the checking account to be used for the strategic planning process. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried.

Chamber Report: The next chamber meeting will be on May 8th at 12 noon at the Friendly Tavern.

Circus: Kraemer shared that the chamber is still looking to bring the Kelly Miller Circus back to town in August. If anyone knows of a location that would be suitable call the chamber office. The location would have to have ample parking and a water source. Some of the suggestions from CWAEDC board members included the property around the Lane Automotive building on Red Arrow Highway and the property behind the church next to Community Hospital. It was also suggested the property on the east side of Coloma High School may be a possibility. Jennifer Sipla from the Chamber is chairing the circus committee and these suggestions will be passed onto her. She is still waiting to hear back from Watervliet high school and Community Hospital as well as an inquiry about the former mill site.

Business After Hours: The next CWACC Afterhours will be June 6th from 5-7 at the beautiful new Berrien Teachers Credit Union (BTCU) in Coloma. Please RSVP to the Chamber office so that we can have an accurate count.

PR & Marketing: The Golf Outing is scheduled for June 15th at the Paw Paw Lake Golf Club. If there is anyone who can help at the event or help to gather raffle prizes it would be much appreciated. So far the CWAEDC has 7 sponsors for the event and 21 golfers signed up to play. A Save the Date postcard has been mailed out and Kniebes will continue to call on businesses that have sponsored the event in the past. A flyer and sponsor form will go out this week to a list of 300.

Coordinator's Report Highlights: (Full Report on File)

Updates: Kniebes highlighted her report for the board. The golf outing will be an ongoing project as sponsors and raffle prizes are lined up for the once a year fundraiser.

Creating Entrepreneurial Communities: This project is a grant that was received by the South Haven Chamber and other organizations that will do a year long study and a series of meetings on how communities can work together to promote each other and their area as a whole with all the amenities that they have to offer. It also will try and see if there are gaps in communication on what resources are available to new entrepreneurs in the community that would like to start a new business and what programs are in place to help them. So far I have attended two meetings and the process is moving along quickly and is informative.

Legislative Breakfast: No action has been taken on this since I am not sure if Coloma Township is going to coordinate and event the CWAEDC may partner with. We may pursue this later in the year.

Name Change: Attorney Postelli has reported the North County Community Development is available as a DBA for the CWAEDC. Kniebes will look back through old emails to see what the other possibilities were.

Chair Report:

Municipal Meeting and Strategic Planning: Aviles reported that the first meeting with the six municipal leaders on Strategic Planning went very well. After Susan Stratton presented the first meeting with the leaders it was decided that an additional meeting should be added inviting the six municipal leaders and their elected board members as well as the entire CWAEDC board members. Invites will go out to them on Friday for this educational meeting to discuss the meaning of what regional strategic planning is and a better understanding of how this differs from a masterplan. The meeting will again be held at the Coloma Township Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. on May 17th. Aviles stressed that we need to move forward with the meetings to stay on task so that we could have a plan in place by the end of the year. The municipal leaders that attended the first meeting were very impressed and felt it was going in a positive direction.

Old Business: None.

Community Updates: Aviles asked if any municipality had anything they would like to share. Jerry Jollay updated the board on the plans to add on to the Bainbridge Hall. At their next municipal meeting they will vote on bids for the addition.

Miscellaneous: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Kinzler and supported by Hutchins to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Jollay Secretary,

Chana Kniebes Recording Secretary