

**Coloma Watervliet Area Economic Development Corporation
Minutes of the June 7, 2007**

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

Others Present: 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 Jarvis to accept the minutes from May 3rd, 2007 as presented. Motion carried.

Finance Committee: Schofield went over the finance report for the month of May. A motion was made by Jerry Jollay and supported by Kinzler to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$5,247.33 for the month of May as presented. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried. Schofield also reported that Kniebes has billed each municipality for the second fiscal payment for July, August and September. A payment has also been made to Leading Edge Mentoring for the Strategic Planning that has taken place so far.

Chamber Report: The next chamber meeting will be on June 12th at 12 noon at the Board of Trade.

Circus: Kraemer shared that the chamber is still looking to bring the Kelly Miller Circus back to town in August. Kraemer has not heard back yet from Circus Chair Jennifer Sipla on any of the locations that were suggested at the last CWAEDC meeting.

Education at Lunch: Rick Warner will be doing an educational piece on hiring and applications. The date is July 19th from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. upstairs at the Friendly. The cost is \$5.00 and includes lunch.

PR & Marketing: The Golf Outing is scheduled for June 15th at the Paw Paw Lake Golf Club. So far the CWAEDC has 16 sponsors for the event and 57 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. An email reminder was sent this past week and over 60 prizes have been donated for the event from area businesses.

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.

Parade of Homes: The CWAEDC and the CWACC will be involved with the July 26th Parade of Homes preview. The location this year will be in the development off of Lewis Street in Watervliet. This is a great opportunity to showcase our area and promote our organizations. The event will be from 5-7 p.m. and will be at no cost to our organizations but we will be listed on the tri-fold brochure that promotes the event. Kniebes has already mailed the 300 labels to the Home Builders Association to be used for invites.

Website: Kniebes shared with the board that she invited John Ruder from Genesis Web Design to come in the office and give feedback on the current website. The website needs to be updated and more user friendly. There is good data that can still be used but it needs to be fresher and it would be helpful to be able to update the website in the office. With a name change pending, this would be an ideal time to update. Owen commented that Ruder has done the new Coloma City website and they have been very happy with the results. After discussion a motion was made by Polashak and supported by Schofield to spend up to \$1,500 to update the website. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried. The chamber shares the website and this proposal will also be brought to the next chamber meeting.

New Reception and Banquet Hall: Andrew Kendall will be opening a new reception and banquet hall in the former Army Surplus Warehouse building. The new name will be 248 Event District.

Chair Report:

Ballot Voting for New Name: A ballot was given to all board members and the new name chosen for a DBA was North Berrien Community Development. A motion was made by Jerry Jollay and supported by Kinzler to use the name North Berrien Community Development as our DBA pending approval by the six municipalities. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried. Kniebes will contact Attorney Postelli to do the paperwork and at the same time see if the Articles of Incorporation can be updated.

New Mission Statement: Aviles shared that during the Strategic Planning it was suggested to change our current Mission Statement.

Current CWAEDC Mission

The Coloma Watervliet Area Economic Development Corporation (CWAEDC) is organized for the Specific and primary purpose of;
Sustaining and improving the economic vitality of Coloma and Watervliet through the retention and growth of commercial, retail, service, tourism, and industrial enterprise.

The new proposed mission statement is;

North Berrien Community Development is organized for the specific and primary purpose of sustaining and improving the economic vitality of North Berrien County through developing family oriented communities with joint programs, services and regulatory alignment among the active municipalities.

A motion was made by Jarvis and supported by Polashak to approve the new mission statement as amended pending approval of the six municipalities. Roll call vote. All yes. Motion carried.

Municipal Meeting and Strategic Planning: Aviles shared with the board that she felt the last Strategic Planning meeting went very well but we need to decide where we want to go from here. We need to know what type of community meeting will be held next and who will be invited. There was discussion on clarification of the next steps. A committee made up of Aviles, Schofield, Jarvis and Owen will meet together and do a conference call with Stratton on June 21st at 5:30 p.m. to clarify how we move forward. Questions that need answers are; what key people will be invited to the next meeting and what will be discussed. At the next CWAEDC board meeting they will bring back what they learned so that we can move forward with the next community impact meeting.

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 to their building.

Owen commented that the new Coloma City website is up and running at www.cityofcoloma.org or .com

Also if anyone notices an odor from the landfill please let the city or township know of the problem.

The City of Watervliet has an ongoing water project and the City Hall building is having some remodeling due to termite damage. The old façade of a fire station will be maintained.

Coloma Township Hall is undergoing major remodeling to address issues heating and ventilation issues.

Jarvis commented that there is renewed interest in lake property in Hagar Township and that a new ordinance enforcement officer has been hired.

Miscellaneous: The Watervliet Independence Weekend Celebration will be June 29th-July 1st.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Kinzler and supported by Jarvis to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Jollay Secretary,

Chana Kniebes Recording Secretary