

KENYON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Commissioners present: John Mortensen, Stuart Campbell, Don Kirchmann, and Mary Bailey

Via teleconference: Chris Mallery

Commissioners Absent: None

Others in Attendance: Todd Kieffer, City Administrator Scott Lehner

The EDA meeting was held at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Bailey seconded by Kirchmann to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0-0.

APPROVE MINUTES AND FINANCIALS

Motion by Bailey seconded by Kirchman to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2025 and March 25, 2025 meetings and the financials. Motion carried 5-0-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/COMMENTS

REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS:

Industrial Park Update

St. Marc Materials

Kieffer reported that there had not been any additional contact with Chris Hanke since the March 20th meeting. Hanke had indicated that he was interested in submitting a bid for the entire industrial park.

Corgi Canna Cannabis

Kieffer and Administrator Lehner will collaborate with Corgi Canna on a communication plan. Their license has been approved by the State of Minnesota. Their purchase agreement with a purchase price of \$212,782 for Block 3, Lot 1 has been sent to Attorney Riggs for review.

Kenyon Foundation Update

Develop Foundation Board: 7-10 members

There are currently seven or eight people willing to serve on the board.

Next meeting: Monday, April 28, 2025

The next Kenyon Foundation meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2025, at 5:00 pm at the All Seasons Community Center.

Continue educating Kenyon residents throughout the process

SMIF has shared that once the foundation board is created, publication releases will be part of the rolling out process.

Kenyon Downtown Beautification

Explore hanging plants on city poles

The six square light poles on the corners of 2nd Street would be able to support hanging plants. Kieffer will check with MnDOT on their requirements.

Boulevard – Rose Bushes or Rose Trees

The public has indicated that they like the rose trees in the boulevard verses the rose shrubs. A decision was made to see how the existing rose shrubs develop this summer and then make further decisions for

2026. The EDA would like the city to create an annual budget for maintaining a scenic landscape on Gunderson Boulevard.

Increase Foot Traffic

The EDA would like to see the vacant store fronts filled up including the event center and the former Home Plate building. The Municipal Liquor Store plans to expand into the former NAPA building. Kieffer will reach out to the Historical Society regarding reviving the Walking Tour from the past. Eventually, this could be part of the city marketing plan. The ESMC process under direction of MN Design Center should provide excellent data to assist the City of Kenyon in determining short-term and long-term development goals for the community.

Kenyon Business Directory Website Update

Kieffer stated that the business directory has been updated to the city website but continue providing any entity updates.

University of MN: Center for Transportation Studies

Kieffer provided an update on the Empowering Small Minnesota Communities Grant. He submitted an article to be published by the Kenyon Leader. The article was also posted on the city Facebook page and will be posted on the city website. Kenyon residents will continue to be informed throughout the process on these mediums.

NEW BUSINESS

Façade Improvement Applications

Bob Kylo

Kenyon Meats

Bob Kylo-Roberts Repair and Dan Thomas-Kenyon Meats submitted Façade applications. The current remaining balance is \$1,250. The EDA asked Kieffer to look at the budget creatively and search for options for the remaining \$1,250 to be used for additional requests.

ITEMS FOR NEXT EDA MEETING

- A. Corgin Canna update
- B. Business Directory
- C. Walking Tour discussion with historical society update
- D. Façade Improvement update
- E. ESMC update
- F. Foundation 4/28 meeting update

COMMENTS

Next EDA Meeting: Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 8:00 AM at City Hall

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bailey seconded by Kirchmann to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Motion Carried 5-0-0.