



MEETING OF THE ITG POLITICAL SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE

3/24/2022 – Minutes

On Thursday, March 24, 2022, the ITG Political Subdivision Committee met in regular session at 5:30 PM. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room. Those present included: Mark Armstrong, Steve Marquardt, Wayne Munson, and Donnell Preskey Hushka. Persons in the audience included: Michael Connelly, Ben Ehreth, Sheri Grossman, Nancy Guy, Kate Herzog, Kevin Klipfel, Brian Ritter, and Darin Scherr.

1. Approval of minutes – Chair Marquardt called for consideration of the May 27, 2021 meeting minutes.
Motion: Wayne Munson motioned to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021, meeting as presented. Mark Armstrong seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved, with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.
2. Together 2045 project update from Ben Ehreth, Bismarck Community Development Director – Ben Ehreth provided an update on the progress of the Together 2045 Comprehensive Plan. Currently, the plan draft is being developed and has a projected completion of early summer 2022. Public outreach and partner reviews of the draft plan will take place during the summer, and the final draft will be composed in the fall of 2022. The completion of the plan is anticipated for December 2022.
<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40181/Together-2045-Bismarcks-Comprehensive-Plan-PDF>
The committee received the report.
3. Community update from Sheri Grossman, CEO of Bismarck Mandan Convention & Visitors Bureau – Sheri Grossman provided an update on the Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB). The CVB has implemented programs including interactive tours, digital savings passes, a partner event grants program, Genuine Dakota Gift Shop, and a digital marketing campaign. Grossman also provided information on the occupancy report and lodging tax. She concluded by noting that Bismarck-Mandan has become a destination for international travelers, influencers, and writers.
<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40177/Bismarck-Mandan-CVB-PDF>
The committee received the report.
4. Community update from Kate Herzog, President, Downtown Bismarck Community Foundation – Kate Herzog provided an update on the Downtown Bismarck Community Foundation (Downtowners). Herzog included information about the fiscal impact of all Renaissance Zone Projects, noting that a total capital investment of \$83,254,268 has been verified on Renaissance Zone projects. Herzog also highlighted various development



projects and new businesses in the downtown area. Herzog concluded by outlining upcoming projects: Renaissance Zone Renewal, Road Show 2022, Public Gathering Space, Preparing for Sanford Heart, Rosser Corridor, Machining District, Road Construction 2022, and Bismarck Comp Plan.

<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40179/Downtowners-PDF>

The committee received the report.

5. Community update from Brian Ritter, President & CEO of Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC – Brian Ritter provided an update on the Bismarck Mandan Chamber EDC (EDC). Ritter started by discussing Bismarck-Mandan's economic development, specifically manufacturing and agriculture. Ritter reported on the 2021 tax collections, job openings, school enrollments, and population growth and projections. Ritter concluded by highlighting upcoming projects, including business advocacy, small business support, and the Economic Development Strategic Plan.

<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40178/Chamber-EDC-PDF>

The committee received the report.

6. Other business – Committee member Marquardt called for other business and invited Michael Connelly to address the committee regarding traffic concerns and student safety surrounding schools.

<https://bismarcknd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/40180/Michael-Connelly-Handout-PDF>

The committee received the presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

The next ITG Meeting will be on August 25, 2022, at 5:30 PM.