**Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board**

*The mission of the Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board is to improve the quality of life and create a shared prosperity in our community by retaining, sustaining, and enhancing existing businesses and community organizations, attracting, and developing new businesses, and improving and upgrading infrastructure.*

**Date: April 11th 2020**

**Meeting Location: 391 1600th Street, Mt. Pulaski, IL 62548**

**Meeting Type: Special Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes (Recreated by Deanna Howard for website)**

1. **Call to order**

Tom Matin called to order the special meeting of the Mt. Pulaski Economic Development and Planning Board at 10:00am on April 11, 2020 at the Martin Agricultural Shop.

1. **Roll Call**

Lorah Hoe conducted roll call. The following persons were present: Tom Martin, Deron Powell, Jim Birge, Hillary Cherry, Andrew Meister, and Tyler White. Lorah Hoe (Administrative Aide).

Absent: Mat Bobell (City council representative).

1. **Introduction of guests**

None

1. **Review of C’OVID-19 Relief Grant Applications**

The board discussed how net loss of income was missing from the grant application and that the board would have to reach out to business and ask for this information.

* 1. The Old Brickyard for $2,500.00. The listed working capital greatly exceeded the amount of $2,500.00. **Deron Powell made a motion to approve $2,500.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Jim Birge. Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-yea, Jim Birge-Yea, Tyler White-Yea, Erin Wyss-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Deron Powell-yea, and Andy Meister-Abstain. Motion Passes.**
  2. Farmer’s Family Restaurant for $2,500.00. The listed expenses included employee costs and food costs which brought the amount well above $2,500.00. The board discussed if the amount of $2,500.00 was enough to help businesses get by during this pandemic. The goal is to keep business open until they can receive additional help. **Jim Birge made a motion to approve $2,500.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Erin Wyss. Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-Yea, Jim Birge-Yea, Erin Wyss-yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Deron Powell-Yea, and Andy Meister-yea. Motion passes.**
  3. Industry Fitness for $1,500.00. This amount does not include the loss of income from personal training. The board will reach out and ask for Industry Fitness to list the different types of lost income from April 15th to May 15th. **Deron Powell motioned to table until more information is gathered, 2nd by Hillary Cherry, all in favor and motion** passes.
  4. Moochelle’s Kid Kare for $2,500.00. This business is based out of her home which may include home expenses on er application. Loss of income is needed but not in the application. The board will reach out and ask for loss of income form April 15th to May 15th. The board will also ask what percentage of your working capital is for your home versus your business. **Jim Birge made motion to table until more information is gathered, 2nd by Erin Wyss, all in favor and motion passes.**
  5. Salt Creek Attic for $1,102.54. The application listed yearly insurance for $475.00 but they have the ability to change the insurance to a monthly basis and make the bill smaller. This application does not have loss of income either. **Deron Powell made a motion to approve $1,000.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Tyler White. Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-Yea, Jim Birge-yea, Tyler White-Yea, Erin Wyss-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Deron Powell-Yea. Motion passes.**
  6. Sue’s Salon for $1,500.00. The business is based out of her home which may include home expenses on her application. Loss of income is needed. The board will reach out and ask for loss for income from April 15th to May 15th. The board will also ask what percentage of your working capital is for your home versus your business. The board also discussed the importance of knowing if a business has applied for additional aid. If a business needs help with completing paperwork we will assist if we can. **Deron Powel made motion to table until more information is gathered, 2nd by Jim Birge, all in favor and motion passes.**
  7. Hilltop Community Gardens asking for $2,000.00. These are projections from the business plan. This is Tom’s Business and Kyle Reed is managing it. The board didn’t want to approve fees for the farmers markets because it is uncertain if they will be open at this time. This is a new agricultural business and the prediction of loss of income would be difficult because this is the first year of business. Andy Meister made a motion to approve $1,000.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Erin Wyss. **Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-Abstain, Jim Birge-No, Tyler White-yea, Erin Wyss-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Daron Powell-Yea, and Andy Meister-Yea. Motion Passes.**
  8. Jules’s Flower Shop is asking for $600.00. Loss of income is not included from Prom for funerals etc. **Powell made a motion to approve $1000.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19, 2nd by Tyler White. Roll Call Vote: Tome Martin-Yea, Jim Birge-Yea, Tyler White-Yea, Erin Wyss-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Deron Powell-Yea, and Andy Meister-Yea. Motion Passes.**
  9. The Lucky Larger is asking for $2,295.00. This does not include loss of income or inventory expenses. **Powell made a motin to approve $2,500.00 from the community fund for emergency COVID-19 relief, 2nd by Hillary Cherry. Roll Call Vote: Tom Martin-Yea, Jim Birge-Yea, Tyler White-Abstain, Erin Wyss-Yea, Hillary Cherry-Yea, Deron Powell-Yea, and Andy Meister-Yea. Motion Passes.**

Lorah will reach out to Sue Wakeman, Josh Stewart, and Michelle Hagenbuch and ask for loss of income. The grant application will need to be updated to update loss of income, ask if a business has applied for aid specify what kind, if they have not have them state why. The board could help them if they are unsure about how to apply for SBA. And also, there needs to be a line for homebased businesses, what percentage of your expenses are for your homes versus business expenses.

The board discussed tiered grants so that the amount could be increased for some businesses that need more aid. Hillary and Andy will work on a proposal.

The board also discussed how to get the word out to businesses better. The turnout was surprisingly low, and we hope to help more businesses.

5. **Next Meeting: April 15th, 2020 at 5:00pm located at 391 1600th Ave, Mt. Pulaski, Il 62548**

**Adjournment**

**Deron Powell mad a motion to adjourn at 11:03am, seconded by Tyler White, all in favor and motion passed.**