

River to Rail Initiative

Meeting Date/Time

October 7, 2020

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Attendees: Bruce Buxton, Tyler Glynn, Allison, Eric Charpentier, John Schommer, Shane Riffle

Committee Reports

- Shane Riffle –
 - The YMCA added childcare during Covid-19 for free to essential workers. The YMCA expects to add more childcare.
 - Covid -19 has severely curtailed memberships and revenue to the YMCA
 - The YMCA is hoping the Cares Act will assist.
 - There is beginning a grassroots effort to rebuild the YMCA – They are looking to hire a firm the specializes in YMCA's to help figure this all out.
 - The YMCA annual campaign is also underway
- John Schommer
 - They are working on the housing trust fund. There is an owner of an 8-plex that is expressing interest.
 - Brainerd Restoration has ordered the speakers for downtown and will be meeting with the City to determine the correct location. More funds are still required to complete the project.
 - They are discussing work force housing with Kraus Anderson and looking for potential developers.
- Eric Charpentier
 - Applications are being made to MN Housing for work force housing in conjunction with the Housing Trust Fund in Crow Wing County
- Tyler Glynn
 - Cares Act – About 180 applicants have been reviewed for the grants. There is still a lot more money available and a lot of eligible applicants have not applied. The application process is a simple fill in form with few blanks other than the company information.
 - Flyers are being made for distribution to get people to apply for the Cares Act funding in a second round.
 - He is moderating the meet the candidates for the Brainerd City Council
 - BLAEDC is putting together a newsletter to go out to all members on a bi-monthly basis to highlight activities, unique properties, and businesses.
 - We discussed the relocation of the Food Coop and the potential reuse of the site they currently occupy on 8th and Washington.
- Matt Kilian
 - Although he could not attend, he asked me to have everyone retake the survey for the next sesquicentennial meeting because there was no date in the first survey that worked.

Next Meeting – December 2, 2020. The CLC room at the Chamber office is not available so we are looking for someone to host the next meeting. There was some discussion of asking Jennifer if the Fire Station training/conference room might be available. If anyone has any suggestions, please advise Megan so we can schedule the location.