



### Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes, March 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. Open meeting laws noted in the City Office.

**Members Present:** Darcy Johnson, Jan tenBensel, Jarod Albers, Dave Custer, Judy Jackson, Derek Downer, Randy Heitmann

**Members Absent:** Tom Shoemaker, Logan Baker

**Others Present:** Melissa Jackson, Mackenzie Jones, Cheryl Haakenson

**Consent Approval of Financials/Invoices and Minutes and Bills:** A motion was made by Jan tenBensel, seconded by Dave Custer, to approve the February 2023 minutes and bills. Motion passed.

**New Business:**

Mackenzie Jones gave an overview of the Rural Revival social for small towns class. After completing the training, she will do lunch and learns with local businesses/chamber members. Sessions will be recorded and training documents will be housed on [cambridgene.org](http://cambridgene.org) for all businesses to use. The class is \$497. This service will be made available through Chamber, promoted as funded by ED. A motion was made by Derek Downer, seconded by Jarod Albers, to fund full amount of the class. Motion passed.

M. Jackson gave an activities report to the Board.

The Board reviewed information presented by M. Jackson for a new ED computer and corresponding software/app subscriptions. A motion was made by Randy Heitmann, seconded by Jan tenBensel, to approve the purchase of a new computer. Motion passed.

The Board received a request from Rotary for a letter of support for future improvements to the downtown park. Cheryl Haakensen spoke as to why these improvements are necessary. M. Jackson sent a letter from ED.

The group held discussion on the Senior Center. Cheryl Haakensen noted that they need to have activities – e.g. card games, classes, pool table, movies, exercise equipment, painting class, sewing machine. Expanding opportunities for seniors will also help Tri Valley Health System meet one of their community goals. Cheryl is going to meet with the Senior Center Board.

M. Jackson reviewed BRAN opportunities. Jarod Albers noted that last time BRAN riders came through Cambridge there was too much going on. It is requested that organizations try to collaborate on activities and food. A motion was made by Dave Custer, seconded by Judy Jackson, to create a full-page ad for ED with a QR code; and to fund half-page individual business ads at 50% up to \$225 total. Motion passed.

**Project Updates:**

M. Jackson reviewed the current google ad campaign.

The Board discussed the lack of awareness for the Housing Rehab Program. A motion was made by Derek Downer, seconded by Jan tenBensel, to create an ad promoting this program to run once a month for two months. Motion passed.

**Public Comment:**

Cheryl Haakensen stated she enjoys the Business of the Month ads. M. Jackson will gather all past ads and create an archive on the website.

She also noted that the Glenn Miller Band got his start in a room above the thrift shop and wondered about the possibility of having them come play in Cambridge again. It has been challenged as to where he actually began playing and Ryan Cramer has pictures/proof at the museum.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at the City office.