

**Minutes of the Regular Session
Medicine Park Economic Development Authority
Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.**

After posting notice and agenda in accordance with the *Open Meetings Act of Oklahoma*, the Special Session of the **Medicine Park Economic Development Authority** was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Jack Smiley, Chair.

Members Present: Jack Smiley, Dwight Cope, and Noel Alsbrook
Members Absent: John Branch, Shawn Bryans
MPEDA Attorney:

1. **Citizens' Comments.** None

11. **Discuss and take action to accept the stage project proposal from Coors and authorize the chairman to sign documents.**

Cope stated that Coors has been a supporter for the past 13 years and would like to team up and create a permanent new stage. Smiley stated that Coors has been one of the main contributors year after year, event after event and this stage is a big project for us and we are looking for a partner in building the stage. New stated that some fund raisers could be done.

Motion by Smiley to authorize Dwight Cope to enter into talks with Coors on the development of the stage and Hitchin Post Park and bring back to MPEDA for approval by the committee.

Second by Alsbrook

Smiley- YES Branch- ABSENT Bryans-ABSENT Alsbrook-YES Cope- **Motion Carried**
YES

4. **Discuss and take action on the Hitching Post Park Stage plan.**

Discussed with item 11.

No Action.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA. (Authority)**

a. Discuss and take action to approve minutes from the September 9, 2021, Regular Session.

b. Discuss and take action to approve MPEDA financials

c. Discuss and take action to approve claims and incumbrances.

d. Discuss and take action to approve minutes from October 14, 2021

Motion by Cope to approve consent agenda. Second by Smiley.

Smiley-YES Branch- ABSENT Bryans- ABSENT Alsbrook-YES

Cope-YES

Motion Carried.

3. **Discuss and take action for any items(s) removed from the Consent Agenda, if necessary.**

No Action.

5. **Discuss and take possible action on affordable housing in Medicine Park.**

Cope stated he is concerned about affordable housing for people working here in medicine park and there needs to be a plan to create affordable housing. Smiley gave the example of the City

of Altus buying the land, put in streets, alleys, water mains, sewer, electrical, and then going to home builders to build an affordable home. Altus is doing quadplexes, duplexes, places people can afford. Altus has been working on this for 10 years.

Smiley used an example of MPEDA building a quadraplex and renting it out to people who work in the town. Smiley stated a sales tax increase could be suggested and put to a vote of the people of Medicine Park.

Cope request this item be on next month's agenda.

Alsbrook asked Everett to put affordable housing on the BOT agenda for discussion.

No Action.

6. Discuss and take action on VW Vdub in the park and continue to have it during Park Stomp.

Alsbrook stated they would like to keep Vdub in the Park with the Park Stomp Event. Motion by Cope to continue to have it during Park Stomp. Second by Alsbrook.

Smiley-YES Branch- ABSENT Bryans-ABSENT Alsbrook-YES **Motion Carried.**
Cope-YES

7. Discuss and take action to assist the Strategic Planning Task Force with operating costs. Costs will be for a writer for a comprehensive plan, survey mailing costs, and supplies.

Cope stated that this has been discussed and it needs to be done. Smiley stated Comprehensive plan is the city job function not Economic Development function. Treasurer stated that the MPEDA budget is low right now and really can't afford it.

No Action.

8. Discuss and take possible action to fund trail maintenance.

Chad Everett has been working on cutting trails in the area for hiking and bike riding. Everett is looking for available funds to help maintain the trails and keep them nice. Everett states that they are here on Medicine Park property, near Lake Lawtonka which is City of Lawton property and also on some private property.

No Action.

9. Update from Noel Alsbrook on the creation of the new visitor's map/pamphlet.

Alsbrook stated there is no update on the visitor's map.

No Action.

10. Discuss and take action to approve the expenses for the Winter Events for the Christmas Carnival and Polar Plunge Week.

Pat Shaughnessy stated the Polar Fiesta is a night of people gathering for a special meal and entertainment. Coleen Meridon stated the Polar Plunge Week is a way to draw people to town and promote business in the winter.

Motion by Smiley to amend the budget to be \$200.00 for Poster and Design, \$50.00 for printing and \$500.00 for Social Media promotion. Second by Cope.

Smiley- YES Branch- ABSENT Bryans- ABSENT Alsbrook-YES Cope- **Motion Carried.**
YES

12. Update on Holiday Lights in the Park.

Cope stated that MPEDA has hired people in years past to decorate but that we can set a day aside for volunteers to hang lights and decorate around the town and that the lights are in storage. Treasurer stated she believed the Beautification group will be happy to help. Pat Shaughnessy stated that some people even have their own tub of lights to help decorate. Motion by Alsbrook to make November 19th, 20th, and 21st put the lights up and Friday the 26th, light the town. Second by Cope.

Smiley-YES Branch-ABSENT Bryans- ABSENT Alsbrook- YES Cope- **Motion Carried**
YES

Board Comments. Smiley stated that he is excited about some of the things we have talked about and where we are headed and hopefully, we can get in the same boat and row the same direction.

Attorney.

Recess/Adjourn -

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by Jack Smiley


Town Clerk


Date

Chairman

Date