

EDEN, Inc. of Nevada
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 29, 2008 at 8:00 a.m.

At EDEN, Inc. of Nevada in the conference room at
1301 S. Hwy 160 (2nd floor) Pahrump, NV 89048
And via Telephone conference

1. Call to Order and Determination of a Quorum.

Meeting was called to order by Al Parker at 8:04 a.m. The following either attended in person or via teleconference.

Board Members: Al Parker Trish Rippie Bill Aldrich Patty Hall Laurayne Murray
Cindy Kaminski Staff: Paula Elefante Rick Ewing Guest: Robert Cameron Teri Clark
Mary Balloqui

2. ACTION: Discussion and decision regarding approval of Minutes of the EDEN Board Meeting of June 25, 2008.

Bill moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2008. Patty seconded the motion.
Approved 5-0.

3. ACTION: Discussion and decision regarding approval of Minutes of the EDEN Board Meeting of August 27, 2008.

Bill moved to approve the minutes of August 27, 2008. Cindy seconded the motion.
Approved 5-0. Trish abstained.

4. ACTION: Discussion and decision regarding approval of Financial Reports for August 2008 and September 2008.

Laurayne moved to approve the Financial Reports for August 2008 and September 2008. Bill seconded the motion.
Approved 5-0. Cindy abstained

5. Correspondence: (any requiring action will be under New Business)

Paula mentioned that she has received a resume and letter from Robert Cameron to fill a board position in Amargosa that has been given to all the board members regarding his membership to the Eden board. He was on the Eden Board a few years ago. This item will be discussed and decided under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION:

6. Discussion and decision regarding Eden hosting a Nye County Community Assessment Forum conference in Tonopah.

Al opened discussion on this item and then turned the discussion over to Paula.

Paula talked about the conference where we would have the state come in and do an assessment in each town. They have 28 people trained to do these assessments and provide feedback to the communities. We would then have a discussion and a session about the transfer of wealth, home town competitiveness and how to bring people together to discuss how to improve rural and economic development. We would like to have representatives from all the Town Boards, Town Advisory Boards, County Commissioners and town managers to attend in Tonopah.

Al said he would invite representative from Commission on Economic Development, Clint Koble from RNDC, Joe Locurto and Dennis Craig to be available to answer questions and give feedback.

Mary asked about the cost of the assessment. Paula said that the towns would be responsible for providing food and shelter for about 4-8 people who will go into the towns and do an assessment for about 1 week.

After the assessments are completed there will be a presentation at the Nye County Community Assessment Forum conference in Tonopah. Clint Koble and a RNDC employee will be the leaders of the presentations. They will give feedback and help come up with actions plans, funding opportunities and available resources.

Wells was the 1st community to be assessed and over 500 people participated in the sessions and they had 18 individual sessions. They went over the priorities of what does the community see and needed, what they want done in their community and how they would like to move forward. This is still an ongoing assessment.

Cindy was concerned that they have had these assessments in Tonopah before and they have had nothing come out of those assessments. Cindy said they need results after the assessments.

Al responded that what is different from this approach compared to the last assessment is that an action is plan is produced to make these things happen, whether they are sort term or long term and follow-ups are done to make sure that programs and actions are being worked on. It is not just a onetime assessment and then no follow-up is done.

Al said it is up to the communities to apply for these assessments and decide if they want them or not. They are not forced to have these assessments done on their communities.

Al also mentioned that there are two other programs available for Nye County communities that have nothing to do with community assessments and they are called Transfer of Wealth and the other is called Hometown Competitiveness. These are primarily for information sharing.

Mrs. Balloqui from PAVED said that these opportunities would be good to look at to see what is available and what the cost would be. If the cost is minable, then it would be a good investment. Al responded by saying the only cost would be for the community would be to provide lodging and meals for the team that comes in from out of the community. There is no other cost associated with assessment other than food and shelter.

Paula said it would take about a week for the assessment and there are anywhere from 4-8 people on the team, depending on the size of the community.

Al said Clint Koble, who is a part-time RNDC employee, would be the person to contact if anyone had any questions and he would be the one to put on the presentations.

Eden's goal was to try and get this done by the end of the year, but due to holidays it will be difficult to accomplish. It was decided to hold picking a date for this year and wait until the first part of next year so we can make sure we can involve as many community leaders, Town Boards, Advisory Boards and Commissioners and other individuals as possible.

Paula said she will look at working on scheduling this on Saturday, January 10th 2009 and she will get back to the board when she can confirm that date.

7. Discussion and decision regarding adding Robert M. Cameron representing Amargosa to the Eden Board

AI opened discussion regarding adding Mr. Cameron to the Eden Board. Paula turned over the discussion to Mr. Cameron so he could provide the members with his past history working on the economic development board in the past. Paula mentioned that he was recommended from the Amargosa Town Board to represent them on the Eden Board. Trish said we couldn't get a better representative from Amargosa to be on the Eden Board and was very involved with the previous economic development authority and is very involved with what's going on in Nevada and Nye County.

Laurayne moved to approve Mr. Cameron to the Eden Board. Cindy seconded the motion.
Approved 6-0.

DISCUSSION:

- Community Strategic Plans

AI asked if there were any reports or information from board members about what is going on in their communities.

Patty said Gabbs is finally getting their street lights turned back on. They were turned off because the county said if Gabbs didn't have enough money to pay for the cost then the county wasn't going to pay for them. However there was discussion at their town board meeting because the town was liable to make sure some intersections and streets were lighted.

Patty said they have also has some new residents move in from Alaska and Reno and they are making all kinds of improvements in Gabbs.

Paula mentioned that Eden has added a calendar to the website where we will post Town Boards, Advisory Boards, Commissioners meetings and other events and meetings in Nye County. Paula asked that if any of the Board members know of any events that will be happening in their communities to please let us know so we can post them on the calendar.

Laurayne asked how we know who uses our website and what kind of feedback we are getting. Rick provided Laurayne with some of the data of types of visits and number of unique visits. Laurayne wanted to know if the people who are using the page are able to provide us with feedback and is there a way to capture those people and get more information from them and do follow-up from those visitors.

Bill suggested adding a guest book on the website as a way to get feedback from the people who visit our website.

Reports:
RNDC/SBDC:

Al briefly went over his reports and he read a letter from the Governor announcing a pilot program were by the Nevada State Housing Division will partner with local governments to help families purchase vacant and foreclosed homes in neighborhoods that are hard hit by foreclosures. It's called the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and Nye County might receive somewhere from \$1 million to \$2 million in federal funds under this program. People will apply to the county to receive the funds when they become available.

Al also noted that Nevada Micro Enterprise Initiative in partnership with the SBC and RNDC in 2008 will be putting on series of workshops called 2008 Small Business Resources Forums to be focused on business retention. They have identified 5 communities to start with and they are Pahrump & Tonopah in Nye County and Mesquite and Laughlin in Rural Clark County and Elko up north. There will be other communities later in the year, to be determined at a later date. The sub-heading of these forums is called Surviving and Growing in Tough Times. There will many other organizations represented and invited to these forums and the first one will be held Thursday, November 13, 2008 at Great Basin College from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

He also mentioned he is working with a client in Tonopah who wants to open a gift shop on Main Street and a client who wants to sell an 8,000 sq. ft. building in Tonopah. There is also someone who wants to open a small Assisted Living Facility for 4 people in Pahrump. And last month he attend a Nevada Small Business Retreat.

Al mentioned that the office he represents, which is the Nevada Small Business Center, which is a part of the statewide network and could possibly be effected by funding cuts in the state budget.

Staff:
Paula:

Paula briefly went over her report. She it has been quiet and as far as people looking at relocation. She has been focusing on renewable energy and talking to people in that area.

Rick:

Rick went over his report and gave some information regarding updates on the website including the calendar and the number of visits. The website traffic has increased and more changes and updates will be ongoing. He will be adding a guest book so we can get feedback from people who visit the website. He also shared some information from his attending a Nye Communities Coalition meeting.

Board Members Comments:

There were no other board member comments.

Public Comment/Presentations:

Mary Balloqui asked about the CEDS documents and if it needed to be updated. Paula said that the CEDS is for the county and there are some issues that are still being worked on between the County and Eden and it is available on the Eden website. Al said that he did not believe it had to be updated annually but not necessarily every 12 months, however it is current.

Set time and date for future EDEN meeting.

It was agreed that the next Eden board meeting will be held December 5, 2008 in Pahrump at 8:00 a.m.

Adjournment: Adjournment was at 9:18 a.m.