

Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA)

Sixty Eighth Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 – 4:03 P.M.

Proceedings:

The CRA meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. with Chairman Crary presiding. Roll was called with Donna Crary, Chairman; Mike McGowan, CRA Member; Fred Frederick, CRA Member; and Brian Keys, CRA Member present. Christian Pulley, Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development; and Leigha Steele, Economic Development Coordinator were also in attendance.

- Motion to approve CRA meeting minutes of September 18th, Mike McGowan motioned, Brian Keys seconded. Motion carried on a unanimous roll call vote.

New Business:

- Gude Update
 - National Restaurant Supply on Braygreen Avenue is currently holding appliances that are picked out for Gude
 - National Restaurant Supply only sells commercial style dishwashers, so a regular residential dishwasher will be purchased from Lowes
 - Kitchen cabinets were installed, waiting on countertops to be installed
 - Portable counters were put together
 - The portable counters will not have granite countertops because the weight could damage the wood floors, instead a stone style laminate will be used
 - Donna Crary met with the contractor on September 18th these are the updates:
 - Appliances are not installed yet
 - Sheetrock is going up on the walls
 - The title floors are completed and all flooring is installed upstairs, tile and wood
 - Painting is being finished
 - Cellar door and carpentry is being worked on
 - The cement pad will be poured next week
 - The heating and air condition units are working upstairs
 - The ceiling fans are being installed
 - Jamal Lee requested additional power be added to the outdoor space, Donna Crary will talk to the electrician to see if an additional outlet can be added outside
 - The project is within budget, and contingency fund has not been used currently
 - The contingency fund will be used to extend the ramp and correct drainage problems around the ramp
 - Public Works will give an estimate for installing the concrete walkway around the building, since the contractor's estimate was high
 - Estimates for furnishing for the bridal and grooms suites will be coming in from the designer

Old Business:

- 312 Parking Lot Update
 - 2 solar lights have been installed
 - The electric for the proposed charging stations has been installed
 - Public Works needs to send out another bid for the sidewalks and paving, as the previous bid was rejected
 - No further work will be completed on the parking lot until March 2020
- 342 Main Street Update

- Purchaser/Developer, Joey Swartz, sent an email update on September 19th stating that he hopes to have the purchase completed by the beginning of October, with a brewpub business opening sometime early next year in 2020
- MPIA Request Update
 - The CRA received a request for information regarding transactions, memberships, and property ownership
 - It has been determined that the CRA is an instrumentality of the City of Laurel and therefore subject to the MPIA
 - Most requested information was given, except for some information that involved ongoing negotiations and projects
 - No response from the requester was received after the information was given by the CRA

Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

The CRA Meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.