

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

February 15, 2018 Meeting

The Economic Development Board met on February 15, 2018. The following board members were in attendance: Bill Boring, Randy Heagle, David Pelletier, and Les Anderson well as Ryan Larsen from the City of Stanwood. Also Steve Shepro, Jason Dorsey, Megan Johnson, and Kathy Boyd were present.

1. Arts Advocacy (New Group – Jason Dorsey)

Jason Dorsey made a presentation of a newly formed group called the Art Advocacy group. Jason discussed the purpose of the group which is “The Arts Advocacy Commission represents art and cultural organizations in the Stanwood-Camano region. Our purpose is to partner to develop and advance a shared vision to make Stanwood-Camano one of the top centers and destinations for the Fine Arts in the Northwest.” He also discussed the vision which is “Stanwood-Camano is at a “tipping point” for art to be the identity and a main economic engine for our region due to our strong arts organizations, growing artist colony, popular regional art events, and an openness to art’s leading role by city, civic, and business organizations and institutions. A strong, shared, strategic, intentional advancement of the arts with organizational and institution muscle behind it will make the Stanwood-Camano area a regional destination for art, and play an integral role in the flourishing of our region. We seek to reach this vision through the Integration of Art, supplementation of Art, and Promotion of Art.”

Jason also discussed the following topics:

Integration of Art (ideas)

Find creative ways to integrate art into what is already going on. Examples:

- Art installation at gateway to new Stanwood HS facility; Local Master’s Art displayed on walls of new Stanwood HS facility; and Artist Hall of Fame instituted at SHS.
- Sculpture pieces added to new Stanwood Park (Ovenell Farm) along canal walk, integrating art and nature, and uniquely giving Stanwood/Camano three Sculpture Parks (Matzke Sculpture Park, Terry’s Corner Sculpture Park and New Stanwood Park).

Supplementation of Art (ideas)

Adding strategic art events to what is already going on to establish Stanwood-Camano as an art destination.

- Current Large Scale Art Events: Northwest Glass Quest (February), CAA Studio Tour (May), Art by the Bay/Stanwood-Camano Arts Festival (July).
- National Plein Air Competition (August)
- Christmas/Holiday Open Studios (CAA is considering)
- Establishment of an Art Museum/Gallery/Studio Space (like the Shack, Everett)

Promotion of Art (ideas)

Ensuring that the great things already happening in the Arts in Stanwood-Camano are promoted well, that there is a growing synergy between organizations/institutions and communications/media

- Partnering: i.e. the Upcoming *Discover Stanwood-Camano March Magazine* issue
- Promoting what is already going on: Karla Matzke's Gallery as example of top Gallery/Sculpture Park with top tier artists, workshops, etc.; Sunnyside Studio's "Vintage Watercolorists of Washington" show; Mark Ellinger's "Great Northwest Glass Quest" project.
- Creating a story-line/buzz. i.e. Richard Hanks recent article on the Artist Colony on Camano in the early 1900's and CAA's "Art as Camano's Industry" campaign
- Creation of an Art Calendar to coordinate and communicate

2. 2018 Work Plan Draft – Staff will present at meeting

Moved item to next month's agenda.

3. Hiring of Community Development Director Update

Staff gave an update to the Board on the hiring of a Community Development Director. Staff indicated that they had made an offer to an individual who accepted the offer but later withdrew their candidacy. At this point the City will take a few weeks to re-evaluate and then make a decision on how to move forward.

4. Development Activity

- Stanwood High School project: Resubmittal on February 16, 2018 and under review. Once review is complete the public hearing can be scheduled. Critical Areas Report still under consultant review.
- Cedarhome Square Preliminary Plat: Issued 1st comments on January 29, 2018. Issued Critical Areas Report consultant review comments on February 23, 2018. Waiting on resubmittal of requested items. Once resubmittal is received and reviewed the public hearing can be scheduled.
- Trailside Preliminary Plat: Application submitted on February 9, 2018. Under 1st review. The Notice of Application, Optional DNS, and Notice of Public Meeting will be completed by March 2, 2018.
- BYK Final Short Plat: Drafting final plat decision and waiting for the submittal of the plat map with signatures.
- Mineral Point Final Plat Phase II: Waiting for resubmittal, assigning addresses to lots and then get ready to take to council for approval. This is dependent on the completion of the pump station installation.

- Decker Final Short Plat: Waiting for resubmittal, assigning addresses to lots and drafting final decision.