



Harney County Economic Development

Minutes
Community Revitalization Team
Wednesday, April 7, 2021
5:30 PM- 7:00 PM
Via Zoom and in person

Attendees:

Pete Runnels-Harney County Judge	Keith Ziobron - Cardno
Fred Flippence-Harney Electric Cooperative	Ashton Smithwick-Cardno
Kirby Letham – City of Hines	Haley Perry-Cardno
Jen Hoke- Harney District Hospital	Alisa Pyszka-Bridge Economic Development
Jen Keady-Family Eyecare, City of Burns	Myndi Hemphill- L&M Investments
Forrest Keady-Historic Central Hotel	Brenda Smith – High Desert Partnership (Zoom)
Barbara Cannady-Community Member	Judy Erwin-City of Burns
Dan Porter- Plectrum Music Company	Alivia Robbins-HC Economic Development
Suzanne Crowley Thomas Community Member	Denise Rose-Harney County Economic Development
Allison Field – Business Oregon (Zoom)	

- Coordinator Denise Rose** welcomed the group, called the meeting to order and identified those joining by Zoom.
- Old Business:** The March meeting minutes were provided on the website, and there were no comments or changes suggested.
- New Business:**
 - Regular Reports:**

Harney County Court, Pete Runnels – Pete is and has been getting ready for budget season with first meetings.

City of Burns, Dan Brown - Dan reported that they have been putting lots of continued effort into economic development as well as the Water Master Plan with Allison Field. They continue to utilize Broadband in hopes of future growth and look forward to the newly proposed hotel to develop.

City of Hines, Kirby Letham – Kirby gave an update about the Hines Water Project, projecting that it is about 80% complete and the team has about 6 weeks left laying water lines. The next project the City of Hines will approach is wastewater and sewer cleanup. He also reported that mosquito extermination will begin the end of April.

Burns Paiute Tribe, Logan Hunt – No report

Harney County Economic Development, Denise Rose- this time will be allotted to the Cardno segment of the meeting.

C. Regular Committee Reports:

Housing– Still moving forward the First Home project and getting the RFP prepared to send out.

Small Business Support- Dan reported that he is working to bring a variety of musical festivals to the Arrowhead Park, including choirs and bands. He also communicated that they are moving forward with the local bench project and will be pairing with high school art students to get designs for the benches. Dan is working to put a community softball game together as well.

Workforce – Brenda reported that they are pursuing Crane and Silvies schools to promote the Harney Internship Program. She also announced that Alivia Robbins is now interning for High Desert Partnership and will be starting projects that connect youth to businesses.

Infrastructure – Pete gave an update about Broadband, communicating that it is progressing well. He also said that Fiber is being distributed amongst the community.

D. Focus Project: Brownfield Coalition Project:

Keith Ziobron of Cardno introduced a series of information, including EPA Assessment Grants, updates on local Brownfield sites, as well as different county demographics. Since coming to Harney County, they have created an online map of the county with potential Brownfield sites for the community members to use as a tool for development. After getting a variety of feedback from locals, they reported that they would take their findings and report back during the Fall meeting, as well as provide final reports for all Phase 2 sites.

Keith then introduced Alisa Pyszka of Bridge Economic Development who described the stakeholder meetings conducted in the community over the past two days. She was pleased with the turnout from a variety of industries and shared some of the input received in those conversations. Alisa then asked the group to give feedback and additional thoughts about what the current community looks like and where we hope to be in the near future. She mentioned that this is one of the most engaged communities she has worked in and appreciated how clearly participants talked about values and goals.

Denise Rose adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.