

Washington Island Economic Development Committee (WIEDC) Minutes

Special Meeting - December 22, 2011 – 10 am/Rutledge Room

Present: Jerry Maiers, Susan Ulm, Tom Nikolai, Carol Stayton

Absent: Overdahl, Sorensen and Engstrom

Special presentors: Glacierland Don Peterson, Greg Hines, Ed Miller, Marcia Noble, J Morier (V.P. Marketing – Morth Corporation and Terry Mace, Dept of Forestry.

Guests: Cindy Gaskill, Mike Kickbush, Ben, Marianne Maiers, Donna Benson, Rob Carr, Joel Gunnauggson

Meeting was called to order by Jerry Maiers at 10:06 am. Introduction of guest presentors (Glacierland)

Overview of Glacierland presented by Greg Hines; highlights were:

- Glacierland is a non profit corporation established in the State of Wisconsin
- Offering various tools to help businesses identify/facilitate strategies; projects can include both private and municipal operations.
- Received a grant in '11 for approx.. \$42,000 for a study/project on Washington Island

Don Peterson presented a power point relative to the types of projects possibilities which developed from previous meetings at the REA. Some of the highlights of this meeting included the following suggestions from those present:

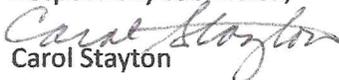
- Education programs relative to Island forestry (Gaskill)
- A "Made on Washington Island" type branding of the various island products; trademark developemnt
- A fesibility study of an Island transportation system example: trolley (Nikolai)
- A lumberyard co-op (Maiers)
- Infrastructure needs within the town (i.e., wastewater, electrical, garbage, high speed (Stayton)
- Focus on alternative energy (e.g. wind energy) (Miller)

Maiers related that the island does not have a way to start a small business other than in a private workshop. Incubators were briefly discussed; operations are located in Algoma, Milwaukee, Green Bay and Sturgeon Bay. Note: Due to the Public Form arranged at the Rec Center, Glacierland and guest left to set up at that location.

Some discussion developed regarding the concerns, issues and disincentives relating to zoning which various committee members felt needed to be addressed at a future meeting. A date of January 12, 2012 was a date recommended.

Motion to adjourn at 12:40 pm by Nikolai, second by Ulm; vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,


Carol Stayton