

North Salina Community Development, Inc.
Salvation Army Community Center
September 19, 2013
Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Attendance. Sixteen persons were present including Jon Blanchard, City Commissioner; Gary Hobbie, Director of Community and Development Services for the City of Salina; and Johnna Voseller, USD 305 Board member. Officers present were Barb Young, President and Mike Wilson, Secretary.

Agenda. This was amended to permit Todd Smith to speak first.

New Business

A proposed new Bulk Solids Innovation Center on N. Front Street was discussed by Todd Smith of K – Tron, formerly Premier Pneumatics.

A consortium has been organized that consists of Kansas State University, the Salina Chamber of Commerce, the Salina Economic Development Corporation and several private companies including ADM and Vortex.

Grants will be obtained, including \$1 million from the U. S. Department of Commerce, \$440,000 from the Kansas Department of Commerce and \$220,000 from the Salina Economic Development Corporation. Some matching funds are required and equipment will be donated.

K – State faculty and graduate students will conduct research in the Center; in addition there will be a few full-time positions. The faculty will eventually teach short courses of perhaps 3 – 4 days on bulk solids.

The mechanisms for conveying liquids and gases is well known but not for dry products such as flour, sugar, salt, coal, plastic pellets and other materials. The Center will benefit companies that design and utilize systems for bulk solids.

There was some discussion of Premier Pneumatics, which has been in its present location for about 50 years. It is located on 23 acres near the railroad tracks at 606 North Front Street. One and one-half acres were donated to the Salina Economic Development Corporation for the Center.

Now called K – Tron, the facility has 110 employees with 65 in production and 23 in an engineering group. The manufacturing floor space is 140,000 square feet.

Minutes. The minutes of the August 15th meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report as of September 19, 2013. One change from last month's report was the expenditure of \$300.00 for a pedestal and concrete base for the five corners project. Not included in the report was a check for \$95.00 from a raffle at the NAACP block party. The treasurer's report was approved.

Old Business

"5 Corners" project. Jon Blanchard reported that the concrete base will be poured next week and weed killer will be sprayed. A workday is planned for Saturday, September 28th.

Second rain barrel assembly event. Rick Weber reported that 55 rain barrels were assembled and distributed, and names were recorded of other persons who wanted barrels. Photographs of rain barrel assembly will be posted on the NSCD web site at www.northsalina.org

Another rain barrel assembly day on Saturday October 19th was announced by Barb Goode. Volunteers should meet at the locomotive in Kenwood Park between 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Then they will go to the old swimming pool to assemble barrels. A company has donated thirty-two and more will be needed. Perhaps people who have received assembled barrels should be contacted to determine if they need help in modifying their downspouts.

NSCD booth at the NAACP block party. Barb Goode reported that our presence was good and names of people who wanted rain barrels were collected.

Engagement grant. David Norlin reported that the group met last week and the next order of business will be arranging training for students and other volunteers.

Open Forum

Greg Stephens said that the NSCD might help Roger Pentico obtain a grant for his agricultural business. Roger is the owner and manager of River Bend Farms and can be contacted at rogerpentico@yahoo.com

The Circles of the Heartland graduated 10 persons recently with about 70 at the ceremony.

Art Grover reported that the Grand Avenue United Methodist Church will have a chicken - noodle dinner Thursday, October 10th, 5 :00 – 7:00 p.m. This is a major fund raising event for the church. Also, on October 20th from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. a fun festival is planned with games for children.

Fall fix – up day is scheduled for Saturday October 19th. For more information contact Clay Thompson at clanthompson@gmail.com

Mike Wilson reported that less than 10 persons had purchased discount tickets for the Salina Community Theatre production of Shrek, the Musical.

In the future the NSCD minutes and agenda for each meeting will be emailed to a Salina League of Women Voters officer who will forward them to the LWV membership.

Adjournment. About 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting. This is scheduled for October 17th.