

Washburn Life
(Washburn Area Improvement Association)
(Official)
Meeting Minutes
January 9th, 2024

Location: Washburn City Hall

Board Members Present: Rashel Crowell/Rhonda Johnson/ Mark Lelm/ Staci Berube/ Donna Sommer/ Rachel Retterath/ Alyson Tiegen/ Michele Jacobson

Board Members Absent: Richard Perkerewicz

Others Present: Janell Lynne/ Alex Boeshans/ Sarah Bedgar/ Liz Schneider/ Dana Morrison

Meeting was called to order at 12:01 pm by President Rashel Crowell.

- 1) Secretary Report: Minutes from the December 12th meeting (Motion to approve by Donna, 2nd by Rachel) **Approved.**
- 2) Treasurer's Report: Report as of January 9th, 2024 (Motion to approve by Mark, 2nd by Michele) **Approved.**
- 3) Old Business:
 - a) **2024 Budget Committee:** Donna reviewed the projected 2024 budget. Rachel made a motion to approve the budget as presented to the board. 2nd by Michele. Discussion. **Approved.**
 - b) **By-Laws/Internal Policy/Code of Conduct:**

By-Laws: Donna presented the By-Laws (2nd Reading) with changes from the Dec meeting. Discussion. Rhonda made a motion to approve the by-laws as written. 2nd by Mark. **Approved.**

Internal Policy: Donna presented the internal policy with changes from the Dec meeting. Discussion. Alyson made a motion to approve the policy as presented. 2nd by Michele. **Approved.**

Board Member Responsibilities & Code of Conduct: The Board went over the policy. Mark made a motion to form as written, 2nd by Alyson. **Approved.** Some board members signed their forms during the meeting.
 - c) **Board Member Elections/Executive Board:** Discussion on the election of 2024 board members and the 3 executive positions. Everyone agreed to continue as a board member. Donna made a motion to reappoint the 9 members who are currently serving on the board to stay on the board. 2nd by Rachel. **Approved.**

Executive Board: Mark made a motion to nominate Rashel Crowell as President, 2nd by Rachel. **Approved.** Michele made a motion to nominate Mark Lelm as Vice President, 2nd by Rashel. **Approved.** Rachel made a motion to nominate Donna Sommer as treasurer, 2nd by Alyson. **Approved.** Rashel, Mark, and Donna accepted their positions. The board members drew their term limits (1, 2, & 3 yr.) from numbers passed around.

2024 Washburn Life Board:

President-Rashel Crowell (3-year term)

Vice-President- Mark Lelm (2-year term)

Treasurer- Donna Sommer (3-year term)

Community Coordinator- Rhonda Johnson (2-year term)

Director- Rachel Retterath (1-year term)

Director- Alyson Teigen (1-year term)

Director- Staci Berube (1-year term)

Director- Michele Jacobson (3-year term)

Director- Richard Perkerewicz (2-year term)

4) New Business:

- a) **Loan Pool Application- Scott's Hardware:** Donna went over the application from Scott's Hardware. The credit committee met and recommended the approval of the loan (recommended 5% interest rate for \$10,000 for 5 years). Rhonda made a motion to approve the loan pool application for Scott's Hardware. 2nd by Rachel. **Approved.**
- b) **EDND (Economic Development of ND) Renewal:** Donna went over the renewal letter from EDND. Discussion on the letter/application and what EDND has to offer the organization. Rachel made a motion to renew the membership with EDND, 2nd by Michele. **Approved.**
- c) **StrengthenND "Spreading Hope" Program:** Rhonda received an email from Megan Langley about the program StrengthenND is hosting. She went over what the program is about (a postcard that asks 3 questions about the community you live in). Rhonda will be receiving postcards to hand out to area businesses and community members.
- d) **NDSU Extension Office-Sarah Bedgar:** Sarah gave an update about the happenings at the NDSU extension office and the county 4-H programs. Sarah also talked about the success of the 2023 Rural Resilience Retreat and the plans for the 2024 retreat. Sarah presented a funding request to help with the costs for the retreat.

Donna made a motion to donate \$500 to the NDSU 2024 Rural Resilience Retreat. 2nd by Mark. **Approved.**
- e) **Washburn Bucks:** Savannah from Dakota West CU sent an email to let Washburn Life know that more Washburn Bucks are needed to be ordered from Leader News (NorDak North). Donna mentioned that this was part of the budget. Rhonda will let DWCU know they can order.

Next Meeting: February 13th at 12 pm at **Washburn City Hall**

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm by President Rashel.

Rhonda Johnson

Minutes submitted 1-14-2024.

Approved 3-12-2024.