

Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission
Board of Commission Meeting
March 5, 2009
River View Lodge – Mahoney State Park
Ashland, NE.

Draft

Commissioner Attending: Tom DeLong, Tim Gilligan, Pat Thomas, David Potter, Dave Neilsen, John Plucknett, Chuck Sigerson, Phil Mullin, Jon Camp, Jeff Weak, Bernie Heier, Brad Stauffer, Mark Stursma, Brenda Gunn.

Kathy McKillip – NIZC Director, Richard Baier, NDED Director

Members Excused: Mary Ann Borgeson, Marsha Babcock, Dr. Jack Huck, Marlin Petermann, Pete Kotsiopoulos, Ernie Arbariotes.

Visitors: Tim Weander, George Schuler, Donna Lyman, Steve Oltmans, Jim Rughe, Barb Frohlich, Randy Schultz, Glenda Wood, Elizabeth Garvin.

NIZC Chair, Brenda Gunn, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Kathy McKillip, NIZC Executive Director, then took the Commission roll call at 7:03PM.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Gunn asked for approval of the agenda as distributed. *Motion made by Commissioner Gilligan and 2nd by Commissioner Sigerson, to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion approved by consent.*

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gunn asked for approval of the minutes from January 8, 2009. *Motion made by Commissioner DeLong and 2nd by Commissioner Gilligan to approve the January 8, 2009 minutes. Motion approved by consent.*
Motion made by Commissioner DeLong and 2nd by Commissioner Potter to approve the February 5, 2009 minutes as distributed. Motion approved by consent.

Public Comment Period

Public Comment Period opened at 7:10pm.

George Schuler – La Platte, provided handouts and information to the Commission regarding opportunities to utilize precast designs when reviewing development plans. Mr. Schuler, representing the Midwest Association of Pre-Cast Structures.

Randy Schultz – Mr. Schultz also made comments regarding the information support available to the Commission and the opportunity use to incorporate pre-cast structures into the corridor design scope.

Both individuals offered additional assistance to Commissioners and NIZC if there was a need for further information and/or assistance regarding this topic matter.

Seeing no other interested in speaking at that time, Commissioner Gunn asked for a motion to close the public comment period. ***Motion made by Commissioner Stauffer and 2nd by Commission Sigerson to close the public comment period. Motion approved by consent.***

Public Comment period closed at 7:15pm

Executive Director Report

If there are additional correspondences that McKillip needs to be aware of and add to the list please let her know. Hard copies in the mail have been eliminated to only those specifically requesting them.

Remember, if you are a guest, please sign in and provide contact information so that the Commission can keep you updated and informed.

The Commission has been receiving call regarding the development of light rail along the I-80 corridor.

LB 546 requires that the Commission develops a marketing component for the I-80 corridor but there are no specifics for development. NIZC will be working with NDED, Marketing Director, Patty Wood and Staff, to further look at options. The Commission will need to decide at what level, should this accomplished.

Per the request of Commissioner Weak, in researching the Commissions statue, it was found that NIZC evolved out of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, those members supporting NIZC at that committee level, are no longer serving on that committee or in the Legislature.

Commission Discussion

The Commission began discussion about the K-10 Association and how to begin working on the transition of handing off the Commissions work to a association. This is an area that the Commission will also need to be focusing on within the upcoming months.

Consultant Presentation: Elizabeth Garvin – Clarion & Associates, presented a power point presentation to the group. The 39 page Part 2 report focused on the current draft standards, and incorporating the thoughts and discussions from the Feb. 2009 Commission meeting. Discussion regarding signage, wind towers, flag poles, corporate flags, or any items with substantial heights within the corridor provided for group discussion.

It was recommended that once drafts and power points are presented to the Commission to post on the NIZC website for others to view or to email out to those who request. Commissioner Sigerson recommended that the consultants email out the updates 1 week prior the April meetings, for Commissioners to review, and have the opportunity to provide feedback, and suggestions prior to the April meeting. This will allow the meeting to move forward and make progress and stay on task. Through out the process if Commissioners have thoughts or areas of concerns they are encouraged to contact the consultants directly.

Elizabeth Garvin, Clarion & Associates, Steve Miller, Olsson Associates will be presenting at the April 2, 2009 NIZC meeting for an extended consultant update.

Closing Comments

At this time, seeing that there was no other Commission business. *Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Sigerson 2nd by Commissioner Weak. Motion approved by consent.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McKillip
Executive Director - NIZC