

## MINUTES FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

November 14, 2016

Present: Kjell Erlandsson; Fran Martin, Bill Streeter, Marla Wishau; Bob Bradley; Mike Pirk; Tom Christensen

Absent: Lee Wishau

Also Present: Chad Arents from Image Management; Martha Hutsick the Douglas Avenue Business District, Mr. John Crimmings – Racine Kenosha Board of Real Estate, Stacy Tapp – Racine Unified School District Communications, Dr. Lolli Haws – Racine Unified School System Superintendent

1. Meeting was called to order by Fran Martin at 5:03 p.m.
2. Fran Martin provided an overview of the new website the Caledonia Community Development Authority is working on our desire to create a pro-Unified resource for our citizens and prospective residents and real estate agents to find on our website. The CDA asked Dr. Lolli Haws and Ms. Tapp to assist us with this and use this meeting to share how they might to this.
  - a. Dr Lolli Haws first pointed out the primary schools within Unified that serve Caledonia students:
    - i. Olympia Brown
    - ii. Gifford
    - iii. Horlick
    - iv. Case
    - v. Walden
    - vi. Jefferson Lighthouse
  - b. In the past 3 years, huge improvements have been made in school curriculum at different schools
    - i. At Case, a program that is supported by Lead the Way has been implemented where a Bio-Medical science program engages 300 students in hands on science, robotics and engineering. This program has been so successful; it is and will continue to expand.
    - ii. Also, at Case, all freshmen will visit a college for a day in their freshman year. This is the first year of this program. The objective is to let the student see what college is like, and hopefully this will allow the student to make better choices with more commitment when they decide what their High School program will be.
    - iii. The district has asked parents to rate the schools and at Case 4.05 out of 5 parents said they would recommend the school to others.
  - c. Kjell asked how students were assigned to schools and Dr. Lolli Haws told us normally, where the student goes to school is based on where they live. There were also Choice/Magnet schools available as options for parents and there is transportation available for whatever school parents would select east of the interstate.
  - d. Mr. John Crimmings – Racine Kenosha Board of Realtors
    - i. We to show the cost of living in Caledonia, compared to surrounding communities would also be a great aid to prospective residents and an aid to real estate agents, as well as the school district information.
    - ii. Other information regarding the schools in Caledonia, two are Brand New schools and are also neighborhood schools.
    - iii. Real Estate sales in Caledonia is currently up, especially in the Gifford area
  - e. Because Racine Unified School District encompasses the City of Racine, and smaller suburban communities, it cannot compare with the Oak Creeks and Franklins and Burlington's. The student makeup of those school districts does not have the same diversity as Racine Unified. Instead we should see this diversity as a benefit to our students and concentrate of the great benefits such a diverse system affords, like special needs and other support systems, advanced programs and internships.
    - i. Gifford has a 4K and Autism specialty
    - ii. Case has job internships for those who just want employment opportunities and do not want to pursue higher education.
    - iii. Snapshot of Academic Pathway allows freshman to learn about themselves and the choices they will make in high school.
    - iv. Freshman Seminar Class provides the rules of life skills – employability skills – to students
    - v. Academies – break out students by their interest/life choices example being
      1. Business/IT – Engineering/Math/Science – Humanities/Arts/History/Social Science
      2. Specific academies like Culinary Arts/ Automotive / ROTC / Restaurant-Hotel

3. Nashville does this style of teaching – base education and academy examples:
  - a. Read Romeo and Juliet but apply it to the career interest
    - i. Law interest does a crime scene
    - ii. History does a mock sword fight
    - iii. Science studies about poisons
  - vi. Partnership with local business to prepare the students for where the jobs openings are
  - vii. When students graduate they should be focused to be prepared for the next step. There is flexibility anywhere within their time in High School, but remain in a program to direct them so they can see High School is relevant
  - viii. Unified works with Gateway and community colleges that prepare students for certification and employment n construction, auto mechanics and welding, for example.
- f. The Racine Kenosha Board of Realtors is a network of support services for the real estate agents. John will be able to get people in Real Estate Relocation situations involved with our goal to get the Caledonia website used as a reference for perspective buyers in our area.
- g. With the website kick off scheduled for November 18, the school site will be enhanced after it is active. Ms. Tapp and Chad Arents will work together to keep all positive stories linked to the school page on the website. These special links/videos will include things like the school video from Case, the Madrigal program from Horlick, the new addition and new school being built, etc. Chad will make sure the basic information for each school and a photo are on the school page and links to their schools sites. It would benefit us to meet with some of the schools principals to see what their programs are. One of the biggest and very desirable programs is the IB program. See what that is below from the internet:

#### About the IB's programmes

For students aged 3-19. IB programmes challenge students to excel in their studies, and encourage both personal and academic achievement.

#### World-class educators and students

The IB supports schools and teachers to provide a rigorous, high-quality education, offering professional development that improves pedagogy and leadership.

3. Meeting adjourned 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marla Wishau