

Downtown Economic Development Committee
April 22, 2009 - 9:00 a.m.
Bj's Deli
Minutes

Present: Sally Custer/Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce, Ione & Dale Olson, Marilyn Groth/Book Break, Merton Auger/City of Buffalo, Pat Szarke/Szarke Law Office, Rick Flaata/Coborn's and Dan Husom/Buffalo Orthotics & Sole Comfort Shoes

► **City Update** – Merton stated things were pretty dormant at this time. The City will be working on the downtown streets and Coborn's parking lot in the next month or two. The kiosk will be installed next month. Sally asked if anyone had heard about a music store coming to town. Marilyn had talked to the man who left her a flyer. The man would not tell her where or when he was opening though. Merton said he recently had spoken to the three men interested in Bergstrom's building and said they are still interested; they will just be downsizing the scope of the project.

► **Additional Items** – Some people mentioned the Vault had a very disruptive night before Easter. Trash was left on Coborn's parking lot as well as theft. Rick commented that many of the teens are good kids, but unfortunately there are some bad ones. Also other businesses were negatively affected that night. There was a concern mentioned that the owner might be in violation regarding their capacity and whether or not it was safe, maybe it should be condemned. Merton said he will check into it.

Sally suggested the need to create some sort of gimmick to attract tourists, since we have advertising funds available through the Tourism Bureau. She also mentioned she was going to check into billboard advertising.

The committee asked Sally to notify the downtown businesses about the need to keep their property looking presentable now that summer is coming. Merton also asked her to mention that Coborn's parking lot will be off limits once the repaving starts. Rick said quite a few business owners and their employee's park there.

Next Meeting – May 27, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Sally Custer.