

Manufacturer's Round Table

March 13, 2019

DSU – The Purch Dining Hall

Meeting Record

Present: Joe Gaa, City of Dickinson; Steve Glasser, Trinity Catholic Schools; Scott Decker, City of Dickinson; Tom Krank, TMI; Kayleen Wardner, Hope's Landing; Sandy Bertelsen, Hope's Landing; Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company; Sue Roller, Baker Boy; Shon Hocker, Dickinson Public Schools; Tom Mitzel, DSU; David Angel, Impact Dakota; Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation and Danita Tysver, Stark Development Corporation.

Business – Go – Round:

Thomas Mitzel, Dickinson State University – Has been busy at the Legislature regarding allocated funds and the dual mission model. Working on programs that fall under the Dual Mission model. Will start offering programs in May. Some programs will not be credit bearing at that time until they have been approved by the board of higher education. Criminal justice and a health certificate program have been approved by the board of higher education. Asking everyone to speak strongly in support of the dual mission model.

Shon Hocker, Dickinson Public Schools – Continue to inform the public on the high school bond referendum by hosting public forums and presenting to groups within the community. The community seems to be very supportive and have asked great questions. Continue to research the career academy model. Has been busy at the legislature for funding. Planning for an elementary school in the future.

Sue Roller, Baker Boy – Remodeling the production facility to get ready for two new pieces of equipment. Have done major marketing on the new “Magic Ring” donut nationwide. Advertised in Trademark Magazine. Will be attending an international food show in Orlando. Also attending a convenience store show to showcase their donuts. Received an APUC grant for promotion of the “Magic Ring”. Have spent of over \$10 million with remodeling of the production facility and equipment purchase. Bob Larson has been promoted to Chief Operating Officer. Have 205 employees and few openings.

Shirley Dukart, Home and Land Company – No longer a seller's market. Have about 110 homes on the market. (see attached handout)

Tom Krank, TMI – Have 240-250 employees. Truck driver positions are full but are always looking. Have about a dozen open positions in the factory. Looking to hire more full time and less seasonal as the healthcare market is shifting up. Working on equipment updates. Ran the first stack of product through the new edge bander today.

David Angel, Impact Dakota – Scheduled automation workshops in January had to be rescheduled due to weather. March 19th will be the automation workshop in Dickinson. Just introduced a supervisor/leadership program.

Scott Decker, City of Dickinson – Testified in favor of Operation Prairie Dog at the legislature. The order in which the buckets receive funds in the bill have been changed. The bill seems to have a lot of support. Also keeping an eye on the assessments bill. Talked to a corporation that is closing their Billings facility and relocating employees to Dickinson and Texas. Had a City Commissioner retreat to set up goals. Workforce is the number one issue. Working with the

Department of Commerce and Small Business Association out of Fargo to recruit veterans to the area. Have set up a complete counts committee for Census 2020. The committee will be meeting on April 10th at 1:00 pm at the Veterans Pavilion. Contact Scott if you would like to join the committee.

Joe Gaa, City of Dickinson – Quality of Life amenities is also another major goal for the City. The top of the list is shopping, schools, the downtown square and rehabilitation of downtown. Dickinson Hills is moving forward. Will see movement when the weather is nice. A long range goal is the event center. Working on an event center feasibility study. Reviewing the old hospital to see if it fits the zoning uses.

Scott Decker discussed the need for an event center and advised the museum may need to expand in the future.

Steve Glasser, Trinity Catholic Schools – Advised the Trinity facility is open for events when time allows. K-12 enrollment is up 5%. Will be opening up a full day every day preschool. Have 37 slots which are all reserved. Working on the accreditation process. Continue to work on their mission “Educating the whole student – mind, body and soul”. Have no reported violence acts. 95% of students are involved in an activity. Excited for the new Dickinson Public High School career academy model which will bring partnership academic possibilities. Many sports team along with band have made it to State. The Regional tournaments hosted at Trinity brought in about 8,000 people. Appreciate all the support from the community.

Ryan Jilek, Stark Development Corporation – Just finished second year at Stark Development Corporation. Vicki Steiner had asked Ryan to distribute information on house bill no. 1172 to the group. Would appreciate feedback and support. The SDC and WRBC annual meeting was well attended. SDC approved over \$21 million in flex and PACE loans throughout 2018 and over \$400,000 in Community Enhancement Program funds. Working with the airport on the airport runway expansion. Market Place for Kids will be held at DSU tomorrow, partnering with the SBDC to teach a class. Working with Dickinson Public Schools to get the word out about the career academy model. TMI is installing cabinets and baseboards this week. Will be having an open house in the next few months. (see attached handouts)

Kayleen Wardner and Sandy Bertelsen from Hope’s Landing explained Hope’s Landing is a sober living house for women. They currently have 5-6 ladies in the facility and can house up to 14. They are hosting their second annual Sober St. Patty’s Day fundraiser on March 20th at the Ramada from 5-8. Tickets are \$30.

Aaron Zimmer, Sodexo Dickinson State University – The Perch is open and available to all in the community. They have started to donate left over food to benefit the community. The last Wednesday of the month The Perch has a five course meal from a different culture. Every other Tuesday they have The Perch Creates where they make new trending recipes. They have capacity for 212 people and are open 24 hours/7 days a week.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 2:30 PM, at Dickinson Public Schools Administration Office.