

**Community Development Committee  
City of Hillsdale  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Council Chambers, City Hall  
May 13, 2024 – 5:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

- I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**
- V. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2024 Community Development Committee Meeting
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
- VII. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Mitchell Building Lease/Funding
  - B. Update on Hillsdale College Dow Hotel Expansion Project
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

PLACE: CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS (moved from conference room)

DATE: April 24, 2024

TIME: 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Tony Vear and Gary Wolfram.

ABSENT: Cindy Pratt

STAFF: David Mackie, City Manager and BPU Director and Sam Fry, Marketing and Economic Development.

PUBLIC: Dan Bisher, Carol Lackey, Jim McCosh, Bonnie McCosh, Caroline Cogswell, Janice McConnell, Dave McConnell, Louise Worms, Susan Foulke, Penny Wauste, John Cokely, Liz Webb, Rod Zeigle, Chris Braxmaier, Sue Dryer, John Pulver, Randel Spence, Carol Taylor, Joan Krauss, Cheryl Maies, Janice Strait, Richard Smith, Andrew Gelzer and others not listed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Gary, seconded by Tony, motion passed 2-0

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

Carol Lackey, Membership is 150 plus. Friends need additional time to fund raise  
Dan Bisher, The service the Research Center provides is incredible. It is not only a service to the City, but also the County as well as the State. The Historical documents that are kept and maintained are of great importance. Should allow more time to the Friends of the Mitchell, so they can pursue some additional funding.

Joan Cross, Spoke in favor of allowing the Friends to continue at the Mitchell.

Christine McDowell Broxmaier; Supported the Friends being allowed to stay.

John Cokely, 8th grade History Teacher and spoke of maintaining the Mitchell as he uses the Mitchell for his classes. The number of his students using the Mitchell has increased over the years.

Richard Smith, Has used the Mitchell for over 12 years. Concern on the condition of the building. Maybe the City needs to appoint a project manager to address the maintenance issues.

David McDowell, Has used it for many years. Wondered why the Mitchell was not connected when the City built the new library.

Chris Bush, We need to be good stewards of the Mitchell so it can be passed down to future generations.

Liz Webb, Patron from Osseo. Mitchell should've been connected. It is a Historical Destination.

Mary Wolfram, It is our History and preserving it is very important. What Grants can be applied for? Set up a Go Fund Me Account? Need to be diligent in pursuing all fundraising opportunities to enable this valuable structure to be preserved.

Louise Worms; Are we not able to use the \$400,000 donation the Library just received on the Mitchell.

Janice Weister, Has been volunteering for 27 or 28 years. As I'm almost 90 years old, I will not be able to volunteer as much as I had in the past. Need to keep the Mitchell.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mitchell Building Discussion:

David Mackie spoke of the need to find a solution of funding the Mitchell Building. In no way is the City considering tearing Mitchell Building down. The City wants to find a way for the Friends of the Mitchell to purchase the building. Being that the Mitchell is no longer connected to the Public Library those funds are not available legally. During this time Andrew Gelzer spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Mitchell and the need to give the Friends more time to pursue funding.

Additional discussion ensued and it was motioned to give the Friend an additional 6 months till January of 2025 on their lease.

Additionally it was discussed on the possibility of doing a 5 year lease and whether that would qualify the Friends for potential grant funding.

2. Update on Dow Hotel Expansion:

Talks are continuing but nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT: 6:36PM**

Next Meeting

May 13, 2024

5:30PM

Conference Room or Council Chambers depending on public attendance.

Minutes prepared by Tony Vear, Chair