



Riverdale Community Development Corporation

MINUTES: Meeting March 17, 2025

A meeting of the Riverdale CDC was held at the Riverdale Municipality Office on March 17th, 2025.

Present: Donna Morken, Dave Creighton, Lesley Creighton, Kelvin Lamb

Regrets: Roger Lepp

Guests: Dr. Wayne Kelly & Lynne Miller from Community Futures

Special guests Dr. Wayne Kelly and Lynne Miller from Community Futures attended tonight's meeting to share what Community Futures is all about. The following items/points/questions were discussed and brought up during the evening:

- Community Futures (CF) is federally funded, there are 16 offices across Manitoba that cover all spaces outside of Winnipeg
- Focus is to support economic and community development in rural Manitoba
- Two main areas are business loans and economic development. They offer loan programs for business loans for entrepreneurs. They are an option for businesses when traditional lending options don't work. They lend to community organizations as well. Rates are prime plus 2%. They often work with higher risk development loans.
- Community Futures supports rural areas. The CF Westman covers from MacGregor to Saskatchewan and from the US border to the park north. 120,000 population in that area.
- Streamlining small loans – microlending
- They offer business plans and some training options along with the loan
- Youth Programming
 - training and grant programs to youth
 - youth business fair in June at the Riverbank Discovery Center.
 - Vendors can compete and get support from Community Futures.
 - Side Hustle Program for youth - \$500 grant
 - Support for help to set up at malls kiosks
 - Support development of entrepreneurship
 - Futurepreneurs program
 - Trying to get business pitches from youth (kind of like Dragon's Den)
- Lots of community development projects and supports – have a Community Development Officer
- Offering strategic planning support
- Community Development funding – open this fall - Theme is Buy Local with Youth
- Lending Circles –groups of people who agree to pool their funds together and extend each other loans
- Westman Economic Development is now called PrairiesCan – they just did a project with Pinawa
- Question posed: Can CF do a marketing plan? It's worth a conversation. They may be able to or can point us in the right direction.
- Business Administration BU Faculty Connection – Keith Edmonds
- Other items/ideas discussed to promote our community:
 - Create a community plan – Is Rivers thriving? If not, why?
 - Need for accommodations – assisted living
 - Wendy Peterson, CDO, could help set up a co-op for housing
 - Can't do everything – collect data and find a priority

- RDI has done a study of 3 different communities that have all been revived and each one of them had different solutions. You need to find your community's needs.
- Both the BDO and CDO can come out and speak with our board as well
- Funding Options: Tourism Grants, Federal and Municipal Funding, FCM, FCC
- Community Futures is here to support us and businesses in Riverdale
- Senior's housing, tourism, attracting youth
- Ian Puppe joined Tourism Research Center
- Swag ideas – magnet with relevant community events posted; check out other trade shows to see what they are handing out; check out what other communities and regions are showcasing
- Market Research – what population are we trying to tap into?

1. The regular meeting was called to order at 8:26 p.m. by Dave Creighton.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

K. Lamb – D. Morken: Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

3. Minutes from Previous Meeting – February 2025

D. Morken – K. Lamb: Moved that the minutes for February 2025 be adopted as presented.

4. Financial Reports – February 2025

K. Lamb – D. Morken: Moved that the financial statement for February 2025 be adopted as presented.

5. Expenses payable

D. Morken - K. Lamb: Moved the following payments be issued;

Lesley Creighton \$350 (March)

6. New Business

- a) Guest Speakers from Community Futures – see above for notes
- b) From the Ground Up – no updates, likely be awhile before we hear back
- c) Thomas Sill – we received half. We will go ahead and order in one bench. Motion made to approve the purchase of one metal bench with posts and cement for the cost of up to \$1300 for the toboggan hill. K. Lamb – D. Morken, all in favour
- d) Community on Track – Lesley will attend March 24th meeting
- e) 2025 CDC Projects – Reviewed plan for wayfinding signage, bricking for planters - dependent on From the Ground Up Grant; Lesley will go ahead with the purchase of 1 bench for toboggan hill.
- f) Business Front Beautification (streetscaping plan) – we discussed possibly running a pilot project with a local business to get things going. Dave will share the idea with council and ask what funding council is willing to provide. Together could we come up with architectural controls? Is CDC to be the ones to approve projects? We've already started with the gray bricking on 2nd avenue.
- g) Community Billboard – Kelvin and Donna will look at the sign and come up with a plan to repair it.
- h) Marketing/Advertising Swag Ideas – as discussed above with Community Futures guests

7. Board Member Reports

- a) Age Friendly Community – Dave received e-mail from Doreen – we will look at scheduling a time to meet
- b) Grant Application Updates

- FCM Comes out right away (Federation of Community Municipalities) – Energy Grants
 - FCC – due April 1st
 - Adama and Aviva – 2 separate grants
 - Red River Insurance
 - Co-op in the Community – look into costs
- c) Daycare Update – haven't had a meeting yet, no update
- d) Japan City Twinning Project – still moving along. Working with Dr. Koji from Japan. Looking for pictures of the front of the Sekine bicycle. A&L Cycle was the first place in Manitoba to sell them.
- e) RME - Women of the Rings – Give Marci a list of repairs/updates needed in arena.

Adjournment: D. Creighton – 9:28 pm

K. Lamb – D. Morken: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Next Meeting Dates: Monday, April 21st, 7:00 pm, or call of the chair