

Growth Fund Members:

Chairman,
 Tim Spilman

Vice Chairman,
 Dennis Friesz

Annette Behm-Caldwell
 Jeff Erickson
 Rick Horn
 Michael J.B. Schaff
 Todd Steinwand
 Mark Weide

Liaisons:

City Commissioner, City of
Mandan
 Mike Braun

City Attorney, City of Mandan
 Malcolm Brown

City Administrator, City of
Mandan
 Jim Neubauer

Chief Building
Official/Assessor, City of
Mandan
 Richard Barta

Finance Director, City of
Mandan
 Greg Welch

Business Development
Director, City of Mandan
 Ellen Huber

Bismarck-Mandan
Development Association
 Russ Staiger
 Brian Ritter

Lewis & Clark Regional
Development Council
 Brent Ekstrom

Mandan Growth Fund

January 10, 2013

Noon

Mandan City Hall

205 Second Avenue NW

Former Morton County Library Room

1. Introductions

MGF members and liaisons were in attendance as indicated with an .

2. Consider the following minutes:

3. Consider letters of interest for one vacancy on the Mandan Growth Fund:

Jay Simes has opted not to request reappointment.

Jay was the representative of the downtown area. The Growth Fund strides to have members from Memorial Highway, downtown, Industrial Park area along with representatives from financial services and real estate.

a) Boehm, Don

Don Boehm gave a brief background and expressed his interest in serving on the Mandan Growth Fund. Don has extensive background in all facets of taxation.

Tim Spilman asked what he thought the city has done well.

Don Boehm replied that remediation and the tax incentives are key components of Mandan's success; Mandan needs to continue to develop its niche.

Tim Spilman questioned what his strengths are?

Don Boehm indicated that his taxation knowledge base and knowledge of utilities industry and he is able to think outside the box.

Tim Spilman inquired what he would have done different as a leader in the city.

Don Boehm responded that he would give kudos to those

that have taken steps to settle the BNSF lawsuit. In addition Mandan performed very well in reaction to the 2011 flood event.

Ellen Huber questioned whether noon meetings are an issue. Mr. Boehm indicated that for the most part they should not be an issue.

Ellen Huber asked if he had any thoughts on the property tax exemption policy.

Don Boehm indicated that he had reviewed it. It is important to have a policy and adhere to it.

b) Larson, Amber

Tim Spilman reviewed Amber Larson's information, she had an unavoidable conflict and was unable to be present.

c) Ressler, Kevin

Kevin Ressler gave a brief description of his background. He is a past member of the Mandan Growth Fund. He resigned due to extensive travel in the eastern part of North Dakota. The flexibility of a new job allows him to be back in the area and he believes in giving back to the community.

Tim Spilman asked what he thought the city has done well.

Kevin Ressler mentioned that growth has been great especially with the creation of the Business Development Office and the realization that retail also drives the community. The attitude of the community is much better.

Tim Spilman asked what he thought were his greatest strengths.

Kevin Ressler responded that it was leadership and his extensive retail experience and entrepreneurship.

Tim Spilman questioned Mr. Ressler on what he would do differently.

Kevin Ressler replied that it was easy to "armchair quarterback". He couldn't say that he would do anything different. Those that have gone before him have left something positive to build on.

Ellen asked whether he would have any issues on meeting times to which Mr. Ressler replied that he didn't have any issues with them. As for the property tax exemption policy, he indicated that it may have needed tweaking, but didn't have any issues with the current policy.

d) Vannett, Kevin – Absent

Tim Spilman reviewed Kevin Vannett's letter of interest as Mr. Vannett was unable to attend the meeting today.

e) Zinke, Doug

Doug Zinke gave a description of his background. He indicated that he may bring a unique factor to the committee from the young family perspective.

Tim Spilman asked him what he thought of the present growth in the city.

Doug Zinke responded that Mandan was heading in the right direction. He also indicated that there has been marked improvement in peoples' attitudes.

Tim Spilman asked him as to what his strengths were.

Doug Zinke replied that the lifeblood of the community is the young families and he will bring that perspective to the community.

Tim Spilman inquired what changes he would make.

Doug Zinke stated that Mandan has done a good job of keeping a small town atmosphere.

Doug Zinke also indicated that he wouldn't have any issues on the meeting times.

Tim Spilman asked if he had any thoughts on the property tax exemption policy?

Doug Zinke mentioned that he had briefly looked at it. He thought it was good to have a policy in place but it must also have some flexibility in it.

Tim Spilman questioned whether he thought incentives are necessary?

All of the candidates said yes.

Mike Schaff questioned Mr. Zinke that as a young family man, what would he want to bring to the community?

Doug Zinke replied items to buy for 0-5 year olds. Bismarck and Mandan are both lacking in that respect.

Tim Spilman wanted to let the candidates know that the MGF recommendations go to the City Commission and at times may draw criticism. In addition, they make decisions for the betterment of the community.

Tim Spilman thanked all the candidates for their interest.

Jim Neubauer indicated that the MGF had one position open.

Mark Weide said it was good to see the mix of good candidates.

Discussion followed regarding the strengths of all five candidates occurred.

Mike Schaff motioned to appoint Don Boehm to the Mandan Growth Fund position. Rick Horn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Todd Steinwand indicated that his term is set to expire December 31, 2013 and if the MGF members wished to recommend two individuals be recommended that he would be willing to step down, as he has served many years on the MGF.

Annette Behm-Caldwell suggested that Todd remain on the committee as they move to implement the new exemption policy.

Todd Steinwand mentioned that all candidates were well qualified. The consensus was in the future to advertise for all open situations.

4. Update on the status of the Property Tax Exemption Policy.

5. Other Business

6. Adjourn

Rick Horn moved to adjourn. Mark Weide seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.