

A. INTRODUCTIONS Those present were Grant Dockter, Jake Fisketjon, Tyler Gerhardt, Jonathan Leonard, Tess Schmidt, Sherwin Wanner, Nathan Schneider, Planner Andrew Stromme, Administrator Jim Neubauer and Business Development & Communications Director Cermak.

B. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. *Consider approval of the minutes from the May 30, 2024, Mandan Growth Fund Meeting.* Schmidt moved and Dockter seconded to approve. Roll Call vote: Aye 6, Nay 0, Absent Weisbeck, Arenz, and Haase. The motion passed.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Storefront Improvement Program Overview and Discussion.* Those in attendance reviewed the Storefront Improvement program, going over how it started, what areas have been considered in the past and what changes can be made in the future. Memorial Highway is definitely an area that could be revisited, but staff would like to wait until the reconstruction project is complete to approach businesses. Gerhardt didn't want to wait until after construction is complete. Cermak asked if she should gage interest from those businesses along the strip to see what the interest would be and when businesses would be more likely to do something: during or after construction.

There was a lot of discussion around landscaping. Staff believe the landscaping must continue to be a part of the incentive program.

Discussion also included the incentive amount. Currently, eligible businesses may receive up to \$30,000 match if the total eligible items exceed \$60,000 in investment of rehabilitation of the building facade; large or multi-level downtown corner buildings may be considered for up to \$60,000 match if the total eligible items exceed \$120,000 in investment of rehabilitation of the building façade, and/or depending upon the extent of the project and the amount of surface wall to be renovated. The committee discussed options like a sq ft approach.

Stromme talked about considering the use of materials related to the incentive level. The group looked at design standards from Minot as an example. Discussion included updating the policy to e policy could list acceptable materials based on the corridor the property is located on (i.e. design standards for the downtown core vs Memorial Highway). The committee would like to see a list of items that could be considered as acceptable design standards.

The storefront program does include signs, but the project can't only be the replacement or additions of just a sign.

The committee meeting frequency was discussed in conjunction with the application review process.

Staff will bring back some draft changes to the program and reach out to businesses to see who would be interested in using the program.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

E. ADJOURN There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.