

MINUTES

**Iowa Economic Development Authority
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Review Committee Meeting
January 17, 2025
9:00 a.m.
1963 Bell Avenue, Suite 200 – Helmick Conference Room**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Melissa Spurgin
Bobbi Bentz
Doug Boone
Megan McKay

COMMITTEE MEMBER(S) ABSENT:

Mark Kittrell

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Megan Andrew
Vicky Clinkscales
Rita Grimm
Kanan Kappelman
Anne McMahon
Alaina Santizo
Deanna Triplett

Sonya Bacon
Lisa Connell
Emily Hockins
Anna Lensing
Maicie Pohlman
Paul Stueckrad

Catalina Bos
Debi Durham
Staci Hupp Ballard
Molly Lopez
Terry Roberson
Brett Tade *(Joined @ 9:03 am)*

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tyler Barnard – Iowa Finance Authority
Brooke Parziale – Iowa Finance Authority
Emily Schmitt – IEDA Board Member
Hank Norem – IEDA Board Member
David Barker – IEDA Ex-Officio Board Member
Rob Denson – IEDA Ex-Officio Board Member

Representative Heather Matson
Lee Rood – Des Moines Register
Jason White – Greater Dubuque Development Corp
Chris Lloyd – McGuire Woods Consulting
Zach Buchheit – International Paper
Aliasger Salem – University of Iowa
Tim Andera – City of Waterloo

Courtney Bushell – Iowa Finance Authority
Bernadette Beck – Iowa Finance Authority
Pankaj Monga – IEDA Board Member
Jennifer Steffensmeier – IEDA Board Member
Jay Byers – IEDA Ex-Officio Board Member
Senator Izaah Knox – IEDA Ex-Officio Board Member
Casey Woodside – ITC Holdings Corp
Mark Ernst – Black Hills Energy
Mark Arnold – University of Iowa
Jeff Nelson – International Paper
Gretchen Spear – International Paper
Adrienne Miller – Grow Cedar Valley

COMMITTEE CHAIR

- Welcome
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Review Committee Chair Melissa Spurgin called to order the meeting at 9:01 am
- Roll Call and Introductions
A quorum of the Committee was established with the following members present: Melissa Spurgin, Bobbi Bentz, Doug Boone and Megan McKay.

Approval of Minutes – December 20, 2024 CAT Meeting

MOTION: Doug Boone moved that the Committee approve the minutes of the December 20, 2024 meeting, seconded by Bobbi Bentz. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: No comments were made.

**COMMUNITY ATTRACTION AND TOURISM (CAT) PROGRAM APPLICATIONS – RECOMMENDATIONS
TO IEDA BOARD**

City of Le Grand and Celebrate Le Grand, Inc. - Le Grand City Park Improvements – Le Grand

MOTION: Doug Boone moved that the Committee recommend that the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board approve a \$44,750 CAT grant to the City of Le Grand and Celebrate Le Grand, Inc. for the Le Grand City Park Improvements Project, seconded by Megan McKay. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Theatre of Cedar Rapids, Inc., dba Theatre Cedar Rapids and TCR Foundation.
Theatre Cedar Rapids – Dream Here. Do Here. – Cedar Rapids

MOTION: Doug Boone moved that the Committee recommend that the Iowa Economic Development Authority Board approve a \$500,000 CAT grant to the Community Theatre of Cedar Rapids, Inc. and the TCR Foundation for the Theatre Cedar Rapids – Dream Here. Do Here. Project, seconded by Bobbi Bentz. Motion carried unanimously.

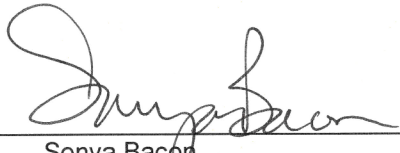
OTHER BUSINESS

The next CAT Review Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the CAT Review Committee, the chair adjourned the meeting at 9:08 am.

Respectfully submitted:



Sonya Bacon
Board Administrator

Approved as to form:



Melissa (Ballard) Spurgin
Chair