

ANKENY

DESIGNED FOR LIFE

July 2010
Newsletter



Ankeny Economic Development Corporation

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Chairman's Comments ~ Mike Grandgeorge, Chair

The mission of the AEDC is to assist our community in the development of jobs and tax base while also working to improve the business climate for our current and future business and industry to work in. This mission suggests that our primary focus is on recruitment of new business and industry. While this is certainly one of our goals, we must not look past serving the needs and concerns of our existing businesses and industry.

Over the last two years, the AEDC has been contacting area businesses to seek their feedback on areas that are concerning to them and their ability to grow and prosper. Through this process, we've learned that Occupational Medicine and Warehousing shortage issues exist. The AEDC board implemented task forces to address both of these issues and good progress is being made on both fronts with more details to follow in this and future newsletters.

Unfortunately, 2 area businesses recently announced they will no longer have an office in Ankeny. The closing of the Harland check printing facility and the transfer of the Delta Dental office to Urbandale reminds us that we can not afford to assume existing business and industry will stay here once they have established a presence in our community. Changes in their industry causing needs for consolidations and/or reductions in force, cost of space due to increases in taxes or CAM charges, proximity to suppliers and workforce, etc., have been mentioned as reasons to look elsewhere. The AEDC is concerned by the loss of both of these companies. We are looking to develop a strategy to reach out to existing businesses on a planned basis to be an early warning monitor when companies are looking at options that might take them from our community. The Exec board will be discussing this topic at its next meeting and any plans will be shared with you in at our next board meeting and newsletter.

Notes from Executive Director ~ Don Zuck

I believe AEDC is making great progress! Articles appear in this Newsletter with additional information, but here are the projects for which many members have contributed considerable time and energy. The 2009-2010 leadership class graduated May 20. A very successful Salute to Industry took place May 11. Eight new members were added for 2010. We have created multiple interests in the local delivery of comprehensive occupational health services. A concept for bringing new buildings on-stream more efficiently is being developed and will be presented to the Board of Directors in the near future.

An important project for which there is no additional article is the publishing of a development guide that will replace the one published in 2007. This guide will be a total community guide (our 2007 guide concentrated on only ED) sponsored by AEDC and the Ankeny Chamber. The target audiences are prospective businesses, prospective residents and visitors. This single publication will showcase Ankeny from not only the AEDC and Chamber perspective, but also from the perspective of the City and the education community. We have contracted with Heuss Printing for the turn-key project, which includes ad sales, editing and printing. Heuss representatives Joe Battles and Kori Heuss will be contacting businesses during this summer concerning potential ads in our publication. The guide will be available for distribution about November 1, 2010.

**Community Guide
November 1, 2010**

**AEDC Board Meeting
August 11 @ Noon**

Salute to Industry



Left to right, Mayor Steve Van Oort; Donna Donovan, Iowa Soybean Association; Lee Schreurs and Sue Davies, Ankeny Building Association; Dennis Albaugh, DRA Properties; Craig Block and Carl Metzger, City of Ankeny and Wayne Nattresse, FFA Foundation.

Amanda Weathers, Chair

The 2010 Salute to Industry Event was held at the FFA Enrichment Center on May 11th and individuals were greeted with a variety of food and drinks throughout the evening. The event recognized new business development in the City of Ankeny as well as those doing business in Ankeny which have created meaningful relationships that serve the public and private sectors.

The Salute to Industry was tasked with identifying organizations that increased their employee base and increased the tax base in Ankeny in the past year. The committee considered a number of businesses and organizations for this year's awards and six honorees were selected. The honoree for the Commercial Investment Award was the Iowa Soybean Association. A Special Industry Recognition Award was presented to the Ankeny Building Association. Public/Private partnership honorees included: the Iowa FFA Foundation, City of Ankeny and DRA Properties. Lastly, a 2010 Person of Vision award was presented to Mayor Steve Van Oort.

If you have an interest on serving in the committee to plan the 2011 Salute to Industry, please reach out to Don Zuck. The committee will start planning meetings for the 2011 Salute to Industry event in January 2011.

Business Recruitment

Dirk Westercamp, Chair

The Business recruitment committee has been busy lately working on two specific agendas.

At our last committee meeting we heard from Medix Occupational Health Services, providers of Occupational Medicine and their potential plans to bring more services to Ankeny.

I also presented to the committee on the concept of a Virtual Building, allowing Ankeny to react to potential business that desire to locate here. We are excited to get more people, businesses and agencies involved in this opportunity. I will be giving a presentation to the full board on this topic, and look forward to updating everyone on June 23rd.

Ankeny Emerging Leaders Institute

Don Zuck

Twenty-two aspiring leaders received their Ankeny Emerging Leaders Institute graduation certificates at the May 20 ceremony held at White Oak Winery. Suku Radia, President and CEO, Bankers Trust, keynoted the ceremony by presenting the topic, "Defining Leadership". This event culminated an eight-session institute designed to introduce emerging local leaders to the aspects of Ankeny that contribute to its success and high quality of life and to prepare them for future leadership roles in the community and their respective businesses. Topics included in the eight sessions were: quality work-life balance issues, leadership practices inventory, media relations, county and state government, education institutions in the community, local business owners' perspectives, Ankeny City government, importance of community leadership and personality assessment. The City of Ankeny, the Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce and the Ankeny Economic Development Corporation jointly sponsored the institute.

2010 *Members*

Platinum

DRA Properties
John Deere DSM Works
Karl Chevrolet

Gold

Community State Bank
First American Bank
Snyder & Associates
Veridian Credit Union

Silver

Ankeny Community Schools
Bankers Trust
Casey's General Stores
City of Ankeny
Consumers Energy
HuberGrading & Land
Development
Kimberley Development
Corporation
Nilles Associates
Northwest Bank
Perishable Distributors of Iowa
Pioneer

Prairie Meadows Racetrack &
Casino
Sysco Food Services of Iowa
Valley Bank
Woodruff Design

Bronze

Accu-Mold Corporation
AgVision Software for Agribusiness
Alpha One
Ankeny Area Chamber of
Commerce
Ankeny Building Association
Bob Brown GMC
Block, Lamberti & Gocke
Brick Law Firm
Dean Snyder Construction
Deloitte
Denman & Company
DLR Group
DMACC
First National Bank
HPC LLC
Hunziker & Associates
Iowa Soybean Association
JMT Trucking

Knapp Properties
KPMG LLP
Lauridsen Group
Liberty Bank
Lorenz & Jones Marine Dist. Inc.
McClure Engineering
Manatt's, Inc.
RDG Planning & Design
RSM McGladery Inc.
Mrs. Clark's Food
NAI Ruhl & Ruhl Commercial
Northstar Power Company
Shive-Hattery
Story Construction
Two Rivers Bank & Trust
The Weitz Company
Veenstra & Kimm
Whitfield & Eddy

Lifetime

Dr. Ollie Weigel
Rex Devine
Gene Samuelson
John Voigt
Steve Rowe

Participants in the 2009-2010 AELI



Travis Auderer - John Deere Des Moines Works
Jacquie Holm Smith - Community State Bank
Daniel Baxter - The Weitz Company
Kelly Woerdehoff - John Deere Des Moines Works
Jeffrey McGill - John Deere Des Moines Works
Ben Banowetz - State Public Policy Group
Wade Greiman - Snyder & Associates, Inc.
Dennis Skou - APC, Inc.
Dirk Westercamp - Woodruff Design
Dawn Martin - Homemaker
Glen Hunter - HLW Engineering Group
Samara Thoreson - Iowa State University Foundation Ames
Mandy Vogel - Community State Bank
Kim Schaaf - Monsanto Company
Jason Becker - McGladrey & Pullen, LLP
Jennifer Walter - Walnut Street Gallery
Kate Ferree - John Deere Des Moines Works
James Ramsey - Northwest Bank
R. Todd Ashby - MSA Professional Services
Todd Wehr - Shive Hattery, Inc.
Steve SchraderBacher - Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Ben Muller - Parkview Middle School

Ankeny Economic Development Corporation

2010 Board of Directors

Executive Board

Terms Expire December 31, 2010

Chair

Mike Grandgeorge

Vice-Chair

Steve Gress, *Sysco Food Service*

Secretary/Treasurer

Jose Laracuente, *AgVision*

Immediate Past Chair

Doug Beech, *Casey's General Store*

Terms Expire December 31, 2013

Bill Woodruff

Woodruff Construction

Dennis Skou

Lauridsen Group, Inc.

Doug Beech

Casey's General Stores, Inc.

Appointments

Steve Van Oort

Mayor, City of Ankeny

Brad Botos

Ankeny Area Chamber of Commerce

Ex-Officio

Rob Denson

Des Moines Area Community College

Larry Grubisich

Des Moines Area Community College

Carl Metzger

City of Ankeny

Curtis Brown

City of Ankeny

Matthew Wendt

Ankeny Community Schools

Craig Hansel

Ankeny Community Schools

E.J. Giovannetti

Polk County Supervisor

Staff

Don Zuck

Executive Director

Board of Directors

Terms Expire December 31, 2010

Tom Friedman

1st National Bank, Ankeny

Gary Churchill

PDI

Don Marnar

Snyder & Associates

Terms Expire December 31, 2011

Jeff Damman

Two Rivers Bank and Trust

Tara Meredith

DRA Properties, LC

Barb Hokel

NAI Ruhl & Ruhl

Terms Expire December 31, 2012

Russ Lewton

The Weitz Company

John Olsen

Karl Chevrolet Inc.

Dustin Petersen

RSM McGladrey Inc.

