

## CENTERVILLE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION REPORT

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**Nursing Home:** The current census at Centerville Care and Rehab Center is 48 residents, consisting of 35 skilled nursing, (4 of which is Medicare Part A) and 13 assisted living. The facility is off to another strong start in 2018. The facility was recently able to replace all of the resident's bedside cabinets in the rooms. The CDC and nursing home board continue to advocate for these capital improvement items for the facility prior to the sale in June of this year.

**Housing:** We continue to market the CDC Spec home for sale by owner. We have plans to hold another open house event in March. The Dev. Corp fully expects the home to sell sometime in the 2018 calendar year. With that we will continue to look at another housing project for 2018, keeping with our goal of sparking one new housing project a year.

The CDC continues to research various housing incentive programs the City may look to implement. Free Lot Programs have worked well in other rural communities in the Midwest and the program could be something for Centerville to consider.

A few members of the Innovation Team formed around Housing were able to meet in January as a follow up. The CDC will continue to provide guidance and resources to this group and keep them connected with Dakota Resources as they move forward with this team.

**Commercial Business:** Through the Empower Centerville program several of the Innovation Teams met again in January. The teams that were formed out of the large community gathering in December are now starting to meet and get to work on achieving the goals they have identified and set out to accomplish. The teams got a follow up visit from Dakota Resources with some coaching and tips on how to keep the momentum going.

The Development Corporation continues to look for ways to clean up the central business district and address the empty commercial spaces in the heart of our community. The CDC has had several conversations with property owners in our efforts to make progress in this area. We feel we have some momentum going as we will continue these efforts into 2018.

With the results from the recent business needs surveys there were done in mind, the CDC continues to actively pursue potential entrepreneurs and business owners that may have interest in bringing or starting a business in Centerville. We continue to reach out to potential opportunities like these both in Centerville and in other communities in South Dakota.

The CDC will look for more ways to partner with the Centerville Chamber of Commerce in 2018. We want to have creative conversations with both entities on ways we can continue to support local

businesses. We also hope to collaborate with the Chamber on projects like updating the billboards on 19A & 46 and new signage at the entrances into town.

**Strategies to Recruit Young Families and Alumni:** The CDC continues it's development of a Youth Advisory Board to the Development Corporation. Further details for the format of this board are currently being worked out with school administration. We feel this advisory board will allow the youth to get more involved in the community and give them more ownership in Centerville future.

In January Jared attended the Governor's Annual Conference on Tourism. This was an excellent conference with several quality speakers and networking opportunities. As Centerville continues to look for more ways to put itself on the map as a destination visit, the information and contacts made from this event will prove to be very invaluable.

The CDC will continue it's featured local business series in 2018. The series has been a successful way to recognize our local businesses and give those businesses a boost of exposure and recognition.

**Parks & Rec:** The first 13 park benches along the bike path have been built and are in place. The benches look great and there have been a lot of compliments about how much they add to the path. There are a few more spots available and we have already taken orders for two more.

The Peder Larsen Park Revitalization group continues their fundraising efforts and their planning for the updates planned for 2018. The group will meet again in January to discuss the picnic shelter renovations, finishing the sand volleyball court and planning for the batting cages.

From the park revitalization group there has also been a group that has formed to raise money and awareness for the pool. As the condition of our aging pool continues to deteriorate there will be a need for renovation on it as well. A large scale pool fundraiser is planned for St. Patrick's Day, Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>. The suggested improvements to keep the pool operational range from pressure testing and repairing plumbing, to possibly even relining the entire pool.

**Grant Opportunities:** The City of Centerville will again hear from the City engineer in February and continue discussion on the details of the proposed Main St project. The CDC assisted in the application for a Community Access Grant for \$240,000 in grant dollars to be paired with the previously awarded \$240,000 low interest loan from the DENR through the State revolving loan fund.

The CDC is once again assisting the Centerville Police Dept and the Centerville Fire Department on their applications for Homeland security grants which would go towards assisting in the purchase of updated communications equipment. The grant applications are due February 16<sup>th</sup>.

The CDC has started preparations to apply for a Wellmark Foundation Match Grant. If successful the grant dollars would be used to match our fundraising efforts for the pool renovations. We will be looking to apply for somewhere between \$25,000 to \$50,000 in grant funds.

**Conferences & Training:** Jared attended the Governor's Conference on Tourism January 16<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> in Pierre.

The CDC will incorporate their annual goals meeting with the process of updating their strategic plan. This will take place in Sioux Falls on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. This retreat will be facilitated by Dakota Resources and will pave the way for the CDC's vision for the work they will do in the next 5 to 7 years.