

Memo

To: Economic Development Authority
From: Brad Meier, President/CEO
Date: 2/17/2021
Re: OACCT Economic Development Update

Economic Development

- See report for leads and 'in progress' reports.

Workforce (From Anisha Zak, Workforce Coordinator)

- Hosted 2nd of series of 3 Made in Owatonna Days on Human Services positions. Close to 100 students on the calls combined, so far.
- Hosted quarterly employer meeting to discuss next steps in business participation in the program. 35 participated in the call.

Covid 19/Coronavirus

- Hosted programming with CLA on grant programs and taxes
- Advocating to State of MN PPP tax conformity
- County Grant Program
- Slight positive turn of dial

Other:

- Met new Cabela's store manager Clay Peterson.
- New Bushel Boy President Chuck Tryon
- New McCarthy Plumbing owners Jake & Craig Helgeson
- Conducted interviews with Costco Depot Senior VP, Hotel Developer Hamilton Real Estate, and OHS for Chamber annual meeting.
- Attended streetscape presentations
- Assisted with moving of Jerry's Mural to history center

<u>Company</u>	<u>Date of Inquiry</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Follow ups</u>	<u>Conclusion</u>
Retailer-Albert lea	6/29/2020	Interested in additional location for her business and Owatonna is on her radar. Currently has locations in Austin and Albert Lea.	Talked about the PartyPlus space and will consider others. Only needs 800-1000 sq ft unless she has additional treatment rooms. Wants to be in a downtown location.	
Daycare Center	9/30/2020	Interested in developing a daycare center for the community.	Looking at land options and wanted to know what locations would work best. Discussed some ideas and shared a map created by the city with open land options.	Met with Greg Krushcke about various location options. Idea about the former montessori school building on the south end of town. Called owner and made the connection. 11/30/20 They are working on buying that building.
Downtown development	2/8/2021	Discussion about a new building project.	Looking at options that could possibly face the straight river.	Started exploring options
Industrial business location r	2/4/2021	Local start up industry looking at moving locations. Discussed his options.	Leaning towards some space that will be opening in the spring.	
Business looking to open sales office in owatonna	2/4/2021	Looking for 500 sq ft with potential for growth.	Provided 3 or 4 locations with this sq ft	Follow up has gone unanswered.