

Voting members present: Lisa Abel, Jason Bailey, Trish Gustafson, Brian Housh, Joanne Lakomski, Marilan Moir, Rebecca Potter, Michael Slaughter

Ex-Officio present: Terri Holden

Absent: Kevin McGruder, Corrie Van Ausdal, Johnnie Burns, Jeannamarie Cox, Jane Fernandes, Phillip O'Rourke

Guest: Mark Carr, Meg Leatherman

1. Call Meeting to Order, Meeting Agenda Review/Approval

Housh called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

2. President's report (Housh)

a. Village Solar proposal (Abel)

Bailey moved, Gustafson seconded to permit Abel to negotiate contracts for solar project on Lawson Place apartment building with Village Solar and Village of Yellow Springs; and to seek grant funds of \$20,000 to fully cover the costs.

Motion passed 7-0, Abel abstained.

b. Report from Housh: Preparation for economic development partnership agreement between YSDC and VYS

Housh referred the board to economic development related memos that he provided in last few YSDC packets, including the memo and recommendation by the Village solicitor for a joint partnership agreement between YSDC and the Village.

Housh noted that Johnnie Burns intends to post for a new economic development/ planning-zoning position in early January. Housh noted that YSDC has an opportunity for onboarding this position, and he may nominate 1-2 representatives from YSDC as part of the hiring process. The new position is intended to be half time in planning/zoning and half time for economic development.

Concerns from YSDC included the "grayness" of the position; direction of editing old ideas vs creating new paths; who helps to guide and direct the work; preference that the job is not focused on marketing. Board encouraged the focus of position purely on economic development as part of YSDC's role extension and hand-off of the paid position. Caution that we move much slower than other communities on economic development, can this position develop agility and speed to attract jobs. Also, be sure that the position is given reins to move on the work that's needed (ie, remove obstacles so they can get the job done). Ability to find someone to find someone to serve two different bosses with two different areas of focus could be difficult. Should it be two part time people instead?

Need to emphasize visits to local and regional companies to attract jobs to YS, including Intel, Honda, Joby, etc. and their supplier networks. Hold yearly or more often meetings with employers like Xylem, MVECA, etc. Chapelle, for retention purposes. YSDC as supportive role, how does that work? More active work from us, engaging businesses, etc.? Can we host meetings with local companies, especially the decision makers for the site? Only if we can take action on the things they say they need.

Mark Carr (who identified himself as an interested villager), asked, what don't you want with economic development? What existing buildings could be repurposed for jobs?

Further board questions: How will person truly be empowered to do what we're asking? How much time on grant writing? Leatherman responded that the position will work with planning-zoning for basic applications, frees her up for more complex projects, including land development. She may take the lead on some economic development and seeks someone who can fill in strengths that she may not have. This emphasizes the need for an agreement (written) between YSDC and VYS (esp with Leatherman and Burns). Consider input from Chamber as well.

Reminder that as a CIC, YSDC offers things that Village cannot do, especially financially and with land buying, selling, etc. Can YSDC be more sponsored by Village? What expenses need to be covered to sustain YSDC? Look at this more strategically. How could YSDC be structured? Review in mid-2025.

3. Treasurer's report (Abel, for Van Ausdal)

- a. General updates: Van Ausdal communicated to Abel that an admin fee of \$512.47 in the financials was a mistake and has been corrected/removed.
- b. 2025 budget preparations: Budget will need to be reviewed at the January meeting.

4. Consent Agenda

Motion: Gustafson moved, Slaughter seconded adopting the following:

- a. To accept the Treasurer's report as presented at today's meeting
- b. To accept the minutes of YSDC 11/5/24 meeting

Motion passed 8-0.

5. New Business (Housh)

- a. Opportunity for board members and ex-officios to share relevant and pressing news
 - Abel: JANUARY MEETING DATE is 1/7/25. Agenda items to include 2025 Budget and new hire position with Meg/Johnnie.
 - Housh: Requested that he and Abel structure a plan for the January meeting.
 - Bailey: Tree lighting this Saturday; Grinch sightings started.
 - Slaughter: Intel laying off, CEO stepped down, missed mark on business strategy. Columbus facility will be delayed due to this.
 - Potter: What happened with conversation with YSNews, Chamber, YSDC, YSCF? O'Rourke and Cox should be in attendance and able to answer at the January meeting.

6. Community Feedback

None

7. Agenda Planning (Housh)

- a. Aligning our local economic development goals with state & federal (Housh) – later meeting
- b. Sunshine laws training, including records (Abel, Housh) – schedule in 2025

8. Meeting Adjournment

Lakowski moved, Gustafson seconded to adjourn at 6:00 pm.

Motion passed 8-0.

YSDC Community Feedback and Response Document

#	Mtg Date	From	Question/ Comment	YSDC Response

YSDC Guidance for Community Feedback

1. Any community guest to the meeting must be identified when they arrive (sign in if in person, on-screen name if via Zoom).
2. Community guests are responsible for muting their audio (if Zoom) upon arrival. They are then responsible for unmuting themselves if they want to participate in the community comments session. (Find Zoom training links here: <https://www.yscf.org/zoom-support/>).
3. Community comments session will be identified on the YSCF agenda, which will be made available at YSDC.org prior to scheduled meetings.
4. Community guests must signify their interest in participating in the community comments session when it comes up. Via Zoom, they may raise their hand (action icon) or show a raised hand with video on, or write a note to chat. In person, they may raise their hand.
5. Chair will recognize one speaker at a time. Each speaker gets one 2-minute interval to make a comment or ask a question. Board VP is the timekeeper.
6. Response from YSDC:
 - a. If an immediate and factual response can be provided, and in consideration of time constraints, the board chair or their designee will respond.
 - b. Otherwise, the comment or question, along with a response from YSDC, will be provided as an addendum to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled YSDC meeting.