

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2012
City Hall, Conference Room 2

Present: Kurt Warnke, Chair, Mark Sabatino, Vice Chair, Bill Shanklin, Diane McGinnis, Steve Moskal, Trisha Hall, Bill Huber, Nicola Lostumbo, Maryann Gorski, Rich Reichert

Absent: Don Meyers, Dan Leahy

Also Present: James Grabowski, Mike Kopp, Kevin York, Tom Paravola, John Quigley, Cathy Maloney, Than Werner, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order at 7:32 a.m. by Kurt Warnke, Chair.

The EDC Minutes of December 16, 2011 were approved as submitted.

It was reported that Alderman Norm Leader, 2nd Ward will be joining the EDC. The Business Alliance met last Friday, January 20, 2012. The work on creating a comprehensive Elmhurst businesses listing is ongoing but making progress.

James Grabowski updated the EDC on the phasing steps for the potential City Council approval of new TIF districts in Elmhurst. The three areas being studied will be considered in committee one at a time and that process will take several meetings. The first such meeting is likely on February 13, 2012. Mike Kopp shared status details on the Addison LLC and Hahn Street projects. Bill Shanklin, Steve Moskal and John Quigley reported on a preliminary North Business Park "association" discussion meeting held at the Chamber Office on January 26, 2012. John will be providing notes and follow-ups from the meeting soon and the EDC will be apprised of further action. It appears some type of program stressing business to business communication and information sharing will be forthcoming.

Ken Bartels reminded the EDC that any further input regarding the SWOT analysis that was done in December should be directed to him. Mike will be using this as a part of his upcoming report on economic development activities to the City Council. Mike then shared a draft powerpoint with the EDC that will be refined going forward. Nicola Lostumbo raised some interesting points on how we can re-think economic development from a new resident recruitment perspective and new demographics. Alderman Kevin York mentioned the Ryder Cup golf at Medinah Country Club later this year and how Elmhurst might take advantage of it from business and promotional perspectives.

John outlined the Chamber's new membership/economic area captains plan which will be implemented over the next several weeks. It involves creating eight such areas in Elmhurst and assigning a Chamber captain to each one. This captain will work on membership and informational outreach with all the businesses in his/her area and report to the Chamber and others what is taking place, etc. When this effort is underway, Ken will broker meetings with these captains and EDC commissioners who have interest in potentially partnering their contacts, etc. Some brief training will be done at a meeting on February 2, 2012 at the Chamber office at 8:30 a.m. The EDC is invited.

John also reported on ongoing endeavors for the successful "Got IT!" shop local campaign including 1st quarter advertising and movement on the creation of a smartphone application.

Nine retention visits were reported.

The next meeting of the EDC will be on February 24, 2012 at 7:30 a.m. AT ELMHURST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL through Commissioner Diane McGinnis. Next month's agenda will remind everyone of this special location and other details.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Submitted by Ken Bartels.