

**Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Minutes of October 25, 2013
City Hall – Conference Room 2**

Present: Kurt Warnke, Chair, Mark Sabatino, Vice Chair, Bill Shanklin, Barbara Rieske- Schau, Bill Huber, Diane McGinnis, Steve Moskal, Rich Reichert, Trisha Hall, Maryann Gorski, Kurt Schiele, Jason Janes, John Poulos

Absent: Don Meyers, Tim Ricordati (newly appointed)

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

The EDC meeting was called to order at 7:34 a.m. by Kurt Warnke, Chair.

The EDC Minutes of September 27, 2013 were approved as submitted.

Kurt recognized new Commissioner John Poulos attending his first meeting. Brief introductions around the table were conducted. John lives in Elmhurst and works at Cisco Systems. New Commissioner Tim Ricordati from Elmhurst College could not attend this meeting. John and Tim bring the EDC to its capacity of 15 members, five in each three-year cycle which was the goal. All re-appointments have also been completed.

Cathy Maloney, Findzall Marketing, was the guest presenter. Cathy explored the value of proper business social networking and related items through several handouts. EDC retention visits can be enhanced utilizing Cathy's handouts and advice including the various web sites that can be shared with existing and new businesses alike. Cathy also stressed the need for ongoing efforts with merchant education. An "EDC packet" will be developed for retention visits going forward. Also, if any commissioners need additional business cards they should let Ken Bartels know. Cards will be secured for the new commissioners.

Mark Sabatino led a discussion on the five proposed EDC Districts consisting of three commissioners throughout Elmhurst. The idea was received well but there were several comments about structure: setting up district boundaries, lists of all businesses within those boundaries and a possible partnering with the Chamber and their pending Captains Program. City Intern, Kevin Leighty, will work on the first two items, John Quigley and Ken Bartels will work on the third item. When ready, the district members can meet and plan area strategies.

Ken went through the present list of 2014 EDC planning ideas. Any commissioner can contact Ken with additional ideas for review.

Mike Kopp worked an exercise with the EDC regarding the North York TIF(4) for input from the EDC to Houseal-Lavigne consultants for TIF4 planning. There will be a series of interviews conducted by H-L to gain community input. If EDC commissioners have names of individuals, businesses, or groups that should be contacted, please share them with Mike. There will be a new proposal forthcoming on the Addison Deck project asking for 65' height and no loading dock. Many details are still being finalized. Hahn Street proposal presentations (2) are scheduled for November 12, 2013. The proposals are from Morningside Partners and Lincoln Properties. The 2014 City budget is being worked on. It currently includes two, new FT positions, Assistant Planning and Zoning and Marketing Communications.

Maryann Gorski reported that the Women's Seminar idea has been scheduled for February 18, 2014 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Wilder Mansion. The seminar will feature Julie Travers.

John Quigley mentioned two new offerings from Choose DuPage, a county property listing and new communication site. He also let the EDC know that the groundbreaking for the initial effort with western access to O'Hare International Airport will be on October 29, 2013 at 10 a.m. Mike will share details when received.

Kurt determined that retention visits reporting would be tabled to the next EDC meeting which is set for November 22, 2013.

The EDC adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

Submitted by Ken Bartels