

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Minutes of Friday, May 23, 2014
City Hall – Conference Room 2

Present: Kurt Warnke, Chair, Mark Sabatino, Vice Chair, Trisha Hall, John Poulos, Bill Shanklin, Steve Moskal, Maryann Gorski, Diane McGinnis, Tim Ricordati, Barbara Rieske-Schau

Absent: Rich Reichert, Bill Huber, Kurt Schiele, Don Meyers, Jason Janes

Also Present: Kevin York, James Grabowski, John Quigley, Kevin Leighty, George Cibula, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order at 7:36 a.m. by Kurt Warnke, Chair.

The Minutes of the EDC meeting of April 25, 2014 were approved as submitted.

The EDC moved to approve Brian Stolper as its EDC appointee to the Commission replacing Jason Janes. This action now goes directly to the City Council for their approval. Kurt Warnke again mentioned to the EDC members that if any member has potential candidates for future EDC vacancies they should provide those names to either himself, Mark Sabatino or Ken Bartels.

Ken and John Quigley provided details on the Chamber's Business to Business EXPO held on May 22, 2014 at the Diplomat in Elmhurst. The EDC had a display/information table at the event. Attendance at the event was lower than previous ones but still worthwhile. Also noted was the fact that the Retail Brokers Event is scheduled for June 25, 2014 at the Wilder Mansion. Cathy Maloney is finalizing details and those will be shared when available with the EDC. Any commissioner needing EDC business cards should let Ken know.

Mark Sabatino introduced George Cibula, Chairman of Darwin Realty & Development Corporation as a guest presenter. Mr. Cibula provided insights into his corporation's business philosophy and direct impressions of Elmhurst. Elmhurst has a great deal going for it and paramount is its transportation logistics friendly location. Relationships with retail, commercial and industrial brokers also are key and Elmhurst enjoys a good standing with them as well. Thanks to Mark for inviting George to spend some quality time with the EDC.

Jim Grabowski updated the EDC on several, specific projects: The North York Plan should be to City staff soon for its initial review. Morningside/Hahn discussions are progressing. The Addison Deck construction agreement is being worked on. Waverton zoning issues continue to move ahead. IMotorSports is coming to Grand Avenue. There was also a general review of City Centre vacancies that currently exist. The new City Communications Manager should be named soon. Mayor Morley will be naming a Sustainability Task Force in the near future.

The EDC viewed an Elmhurst College Research Report. The report also exists on BoardDocks. The report dealt primarily with a survey of ten municipalities with a series of questions to new businesses on why they opened their businesses where they did and if they considered Elmhurst at any point? Alderman Kevin York told the EDC that further use of the College for research and survey purposes was being considered.

Due to the length of the meeting retention visits were not taken and were postponed to the June meeting.

That next meeting on June 27, 2014 will be held away from City Hall and hosted by EDC Commissioner Kurt Schiele at Elmhurst Auto Group on Lake Street. Specifics will be forthcoming.

Again a reminder of the Retail Broker Event on June 25, 2014 noted above. All EDC members are encouraged to attend.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Submitted by Ken Bartels.