

**Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes – Friday, November 21, 2014
Elmhurst College – School for Professional Studies**

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

Absent: Don Meyers

Also Present: Scott Levin, Mike Kopp, John Quigley, Dan Leahy, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order at 7:34 a.m.

The EDC Minutes of October 24, 2014 were approved as submitted.

There were no public comments.

Mark Sabatino opened the meeting with thanks to Commissioner Tim Ricordati and the Elmhurst College School for Professional Studies for hosting the meeting. The location is in the city-owned 180 W. Park Building where the college has almost two full floors of leased space. Elmhurst Partners Director, Tracy Tomasetti also shared information with the EDC.

Mike Kopp provided updates on the Addison Deck and its scheduled groundbreaking on December 19, the Addison municipal parking lot RFP discussions, and the Hahn Street redevelopment agreement. Mike also noted that the Waverton site may not see further action until the first quarter of 2015. He mentioned that he and Dan Leahy were on an American Marketing Association panel at Elmhurst College where one focus was getting the college students into City Centre in greater numbers.

Mark then led an extensive discussion regarding the EDC itself and its priorities going into 2015. EDC objectives and commitments were reviewed and a broad-based conversation on retention visits was undertaken. The 2015 EDC calendar also was highlighted as was the fact that the EDC has one, open spot via mayoral appointment due by April 30, 2015.

There were many, cited, items for further discussion pertaining to the EDC. Among them: Greater EDC 'marketing' of what it does and why, the vital need for a better and more complete database for economic development, the updating of the EDC Districts and their utilization, regularly updated vacancy rates for the city, a better tracking mechanism for retention visits, monthly EDC 'education' topics, a retention visit 'email packet', better ongoing review of the city web site by commissioners for their ongoing information, consideration of a possible calling service for regular EDC contact with businesses, and business inclusion in the 'notify me' program. Mark, Bill Shanklin, Mike and Ken Bartels will be further considering this list of topics heading into 2015.

John Quigley mentioned that the Chamber's Community Directory is nearly complete. He also provided details on the upcoming Illinois legislature's veto session.

The next EDC meeting will be on December 19, 2014 at City Hall. Please note this is the third Friday of the month due to the holiday schedule.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Submitted by Ken Bartels.