

**Elmhurst Economic Development Commission  
Meeting Minutes – Friday, October 23, 2015  
City Hall – Conference Room 2**

Present: Bill Shanklin, Chair, Rich Reichert, Vice Chair, Chris LaBounty, Maryann Gorski, Kurt Schiele, Steve Moskal, Trisha Hall, Diane McGinnis, Bill Huber

Absent: Tim Ricordati, Brian Stolper, Don Meyers, Mark Anglewicz, Barbara Rieske-Schau

Also Present: Scott Levin, Mark Sabatino, Jim Grabowski, Tom Paravola, John Quigley, Ken Bartels

Guests: John Scudder, Kevin McGourty, Tom Dardano

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

The EDC meeting minutes from September 25, 2015 were approved as submitted.

Three guests made public comments: John Scudder, Commander, Elmhurst American Legion Post, spoke of the overall good works of the American Legion and in support of allowing video gaming. Kevin McGourty, Taproom Gaming, spoke with specifics on the question of allowing video gaming. Tony Dardano represented the Elmhurst Elks Club.

Bill Shanklin, Chair, led a discussion of video gaming. Ken Bartels provided background documents and the current status of the matter before the Elmhurst City Council. Alderman Scott Levin shared further details. Commissioners then shared their opinions on the business issues, personal moral issues, image issues, etc. It was noted that the matter will come before the City Council on November 2, 2015. After lengthy discussion the EDC voted to endorse video gaming in Elmhurst as follows: "The Elmhurst Economic Development Commission at its' October 23, 2015 regular meeting discussed the issue of video gaming in the City of Elmhurst. After consideration of various positions and points of view, the EEDC voted to endorse video gaming in Elmhurst within any future guidelines determined by the City Council and staff".

Bill reported that the one, remaining, commissioner position remains vacant with action hopefully soon. Ken reviewed the new EDC sub-committees and their subjects and commissioner assignments. The development site and downtown recruitment sub-committees are likely to be engaged first. This will be more fully explained very soon and will certainly be a part of the EDC annual planning meeting scheduled for November 20, 2015. These subjects are directly linked to the City's emerging strategic planning effort. The EDC 2016 calendar was also noted. There were seven retention visits reported as well.

Jim Grabowski provided the City Update covering: the new Vietnam memorial to be unveiled on Veteran's Day in Wilder Park, the Addison deck, LA Fitness project, Semblex's grand opening, the first meeting of the new Town/Gown Commission, storm water efforts including several home purchases to mitigate flooding in specific areas. Jim also informed the EDC that the Finance Committee of the City Council will be discussing a ¼% sales tax increase to fund storm water municipal bonds. This tax would go into effect after a current ¼% water commission tax ends in June 2016 so as to not create a new tax commitment.

John Quigley mentioned the upcoming chamber initiative entitled: "Menus at a Glance". Tom Paravola urged immediate activity on the part of the EDC sub-committee on downtown recruitment. Chris LaBounty mentioned that the former Bensenville Dominick's will soon become a Jewel store. Trisha Hall wondered why the signage changes/review is taking so long? Steve Moskal mentioned the need for Industrial Drive to receive some maintenance attention. Jim mentioned that the street is in the City's five-year plan.

The next meeting of the EDC will be on Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Community Bank of Elmhurst in its' Hammersmith Community Room. It is the EDC's annual planning meeting.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

Submitted as a draft by Ken Bartels.