

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2016
Elmhurst American Legion Hall

Present: Bill Shanklin, Chair, Rich Reichert, Vice Chair, Steve Moskal, Matt Waterwall, Tim Ricordati, Don Meyers, Diane McGinnis, Chris LaBounty, Maryann Gorski, Kurt Schiele

Absent: Trisha Hall, Mark Anglewicz, Bill Huber, Brian Stolper, Barbara Riekse-Schau

Also Present: Scott Levin, Kevin York, Mike Kopp, Erin VanDeWalle, Kassondra Schref, Arlinda Bajrami, John Quigley, Tom Paravola, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order by Bill Shanklin, Chair, at 7:36 a.m. after the EDC enjoyed a breakfast buffet provided by the Elmhurst American Legion.

The EDC meeting minutes from February 26, 2016 were approved as submitted.

There were no public comments.

Bill introduced John Scudder, Legion Commander. John explained to the EDC that the Elmhurst Post has been in existence for almost 100 years. Later in 2016, there will be several important events on their calendar. The first is a 'Military Ball', open to the public as a Legion fundraiser, to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016. The second, is an annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for recruits from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center on Thursday, November 24, 2016. Commander Scudder also spoke about the Legion's ongoing scholarship program locally. Kurt Schiele also shared that the Elmhurst Auto Group will hold its USO Barbeque event on Saturday, July 16, 2016.

Ken Bartels gave a brief update on the progress of the EDC subcommittees. He also noted the procedure for the EDC commissioner reappointments for Bill Shanklin, Don Meyers, Diane McGinnis and Tim Ricordati. The online application on the City's web site plus a current resume must be submitted in order for the mayoral reappointment process to begin. Barbara Riekse-Schau has determined to not seek reappointment. As an EDC appointee, the EDC needs to seek candidates for that commissioner slot. Names should be shared with Ken or with Erin VanDeWalle. Reappointments prior to April 30, 2016 are the goal.

Erin shared a number of Elmhurst-related information she secured from Choose DuPage. The EDC should review this information and come to the April meeting with any comments or questions. Kassondra Schref then updated the EDC on the 'Explore Elmhurst' promotional effort. There will be a web site ready by the end of May. The trolley will have a sweepstakes associated with it with opportunities for Elmhurst businesses and organizations to provide the prizes. The sweepstakes ticket booklet will be centered on 'eat, ride, shop, explore'.

There were eight retention visits since our last meeting. Bill wondered about retention visit 'leave-behinds'. There are postcards, etc. that will be brought to the April meeting. City coffee cups were also mentioned.

Mike Kopp and Erin provided the City Update. Party City is coming in next door to Whole Foods. Unity Railway Supplies is also coming to Elmhurst on Lamont Road. The Gerber Headquarters on Grand

Avenue is also nearing completion. Hayzl has opened on Second Street. Other locations were also mentioned without specifics. Some discussion of the OPUS development at 100 Addison was also conducted.

Mike then led a presentation and discussion of the currently being developed Downtown Plan. The ZPC has approved it and it is going to the DPZ Committee of the City Council. Among noted items is the fact that better coordination between the zoning code and actual building requests is being sought in the areas of building height, setbacks, density and parking. The EDC will devote much of its April 22, 2016 meeting to the Downtown Plan and whether it will comment on or endorse the plan going forward. This extended discussion will take the place of our scheduled guest presentation. Mike may invite the plan's consultants to attend as well.

John Quigley mentioned that the Chamber will travel to Springfield for business purposes on April 6, 2016. Erin mentioned an EDC-sponsored business panel idea to be held in the Elmhurst Public Library is being considered. The Retail Brokers Forum June date will also be set soon.

The next EDC meeting will be held on Friday, April 22, 2016.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Minutes submitted as a draft by Ken Bartels.