

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission

Meeting Minutes June 26, 2009 – 7:30 a.m. City Hall – Conference Room 2

Present: Betsy Hanisch, Dan Hiffman, Scott LaMorte, Diane McGinnis, Richard Reichert, Mark Sabatino, Kurt Warnke, John Quigley (Ex-Officio - Elmhurst Chamber), Tom Paravola (Ex-Officio - Elmhurst City Centre)

Absent: Dan Leahy, Don Meyers

Staff: Thomas Borchert, Martha Corner

Guest: Alderman Kevin York, Michelle Michals (Illinois DCEO)

Chair Betsy Hanisch called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2009 EDC meeting. All Commissioners voted in favor; the motion was approved.

Presentation – Michelle Michals – State of Illinois DCEO

Ms. Michelle Michals of the State of Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity gave a presentation for the Commission. She summarized the State's economic development initiatives, and corresponding financial incentives provided by the State. Many of the incentives are available to businesses making new investment in the State, and maintaining a presence in Illinois, in lieu of moving out of state. Ms. Michals cited Elmhurst-based business Semblex as an example of a business utilizing state funding for new investment.

Elmhurst Economic Edge Articles

EDC members discussed further newspaper article suggestions for the Elmhurst Economic Edge series. Suggestions included an article to summarize the development process in the community. Other suggestions focused on benefits of shopping locally for gasoline, food and other goods and services. Additional discussion took place on local tax/financial benefits for a typical household spending locally, with consideration of how this can be observed on an annual basis.

Misc. Topics/EDC Member Updates

EDC members provided updates about various development-related activities in the community, including: Elmhurst Hospital, the state of the economy, and the summer downtown concert series.

Martha provided an update regarding Staff activities, including a visit to Downtown Lisle (regarding business attraction), a lunch meeting with local clothing boutiques, and the relocation/expansion of Edible Arrangements to Downtown Elmhurst.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m. The next meeting of the EDC is tentatively scheduled for July 24, 2009 at 7:30 a.m.

Submitted by: John D. Said