



CITY OF ELMHURST

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Elmhurst Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2011 City Hall, Conference Room 2

Present: Kurt Warnke, Nicola Lostumbo, Bill Shanklin, Rich Reichert, Diane McGinnis, Bill Huber

Absent: Mark Sabatino, Steve Moskal, Don Meyers, Maryann Gorski, Dan Leahy

Also Present: Steve Morley, Kevin York, Jim Grabowski, Mike Kopp, Than Werner, John Quigley, Tom Paravola, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order by Kurt Warnke, Chair, at 7:31 a.m.

The EDC Minutes of June 24, 2011 were approved as amended.

Jim Grabowski was introduced as the new City Manager attending his initial EDC meeting. Mike Kopp updated the EDC regarding its TIF recommendation of last meeting. The recommendation will be taken up as an agenda item by the DPZ Committee of the City Council on July 25, 2011. Kane, McKenna will attend. A possible new development at the former Elmhurst Ford site was mentioned, as was activity at the former Kopper Kitchen site. Additionally reported was information pertaining to the most recent Flood Task Force meeting held on July 18, 2011.

Ken Bartels is interviewing possible candidates for the one remaining Commissioner vacancy on the EDC.

Than Werner aided the EDC in a preliminary review of the City's existing signage code adopted in 1992. (Copies were provided after the meeting and it can also be found on the City web site.) The focus was on identified questions or concerns that either the EDC or the City have had reported to them over time. The following were mentioned: electronic signage regulations, sign sizes, lack of flexibility in the code, sandwich boards, blade signage, flag signs and billboards. Specifically cited were comments from businesses in the business parks regarding wayfaring and location signage. There were also comments made regarding the enforcement vs. blind eye actions referencing the code and its possible restrictive nature.

After a lengthy discussion it was determined that the EDC would like to pursue the identification of the priority items regarding business signage that seem to be the most easily addressed at this time. Ken Bartels will be in contact with Commissioners Don

Meyers and Steve Moskal to ask them to meet with Ken and Than Werner to begin this effort.

There were fifteen retention visits reported. The EDC also reviewed how these visits will be handled and reported upon going forward.

John Quigley shared an early version of the Shop/Buy Campaign that will be launched in September 2011 entitled, "Got It".

Next Meeting: August 26, 2011

The EDC adjourned at 9:15 a.m.
(submitted by Ken Bartels)