

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Minutes of Friday, January 27, 2017
City Hall – Conference Room 2

Present: Bill Shanklin, Chair, Rich Reichert, Vice Chair, Kurt Schiele, Nina Coppola Radke, Brian Stolper, Diane McGinnis, Trisha Hall, Maryann Gorski, Don Meyers, Mark Anglewicz

Absent: Bill Huber, Chris LaBounty, Julie Coan, Tim Ricordati, Matt Waterwall

Also Present: Kevin York, Mike Kopp, Erin Jason, John Quigley, Tom Paravola, Ken Bartels

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

The Minutes of the EDC meeting of December 23, 2016 were approved as submitted.

There were no public comments.

Bill Shanklin conducted the EDC election process for two-year officer terms, 2017-2019. Nominated and seconded for Chair was Bill Shanklin. Unanimous agreement. Nominated and seconded for Vice Chair was Rich Reichert. Unanimous agreement. Congratulations to Bill and Rich on their elections and for their service.

Bill reviewed his thoughts on EDC accomplishments in 2016. He noted the creation of the four subcommittees and their activities. He mentioned that the EDC is at full strength with 15 commissioners. He noted retention visits, important to the EDC since 2010. He also spoke of areas of work for 2017 including a 'leadership meeting' with City officials and staff, a potential partnership event with the Elmhurst Chamber and stronger promotion of the EDC in the community overall. Bill also indicated that a fifth subcommittee would be added, a Retention Subcommittee. This is being done for two reasons: one, the State of Illinois has initiated a CORE program (Creating Opportunities for Retention & Expansion) which is a more formalized retention visits effort than what the EDC has been doing to date; and two, recognizing the active work of the commissioners on subcommittees already and wanting to take full advantage of commissioner's individual strengths and interests. Four CORE visits need to be accomplished by April 1, 2017. These first visits will be handled by Erin Jason, Mike Kopp, Bill, Rich Reichert and Ken Bartels. Commissioners interested in being on the new Retention Subcommittee should so indicate to Bill, Rich or Ken. This in no way means that all commissioners are not encouraged to make retention visits. Further modifications will be forthcoming. Related to economic development publicity was a commissioner discussion on various social media sites available in Elmhurst.

Ken shared that the EDC meeting on February 24, 2017 will be hosted by Elmhurst College and Commissioner Tim Ricordati. Details are still being finalized. That meeting is also the annual planning meeting with a special agenda to be developed.

Commissioner Maryann Gorski reported on the third, annual, Women-in-Management event sponsored by the EDC. It will be held in April this year with the date still to be set. The event will be at the Wilder Mansion and feature Erin with a City update and another speaker still being confirmed. Commissioners Trisha Hall, Diane McGinnis and Nina Coppola Radke are all part of the planning team with Maryann and Erin.

Ken indicated that the Zoning Subcommittee and the Business Park Subcommittee will be the ones likely to be meeting soon. March 9, 2017 is a key date for the downtown zoning proposal.

There were five retention visits noted. During this time there was a discussion regarding retention visits including pre-visit research, visit questions and suggested visit lists from Ken. These will be followed up with by Ken.

Mike reported that Fitness Formula Center and OPUS are moving forward with action in 2017. He also mentioned a new storage facility on Industrial Drive, Fitzpatrick Company's closing, Brewpoint Coffee's second location in Elmhurst and that Elmhurst had been identified in Crain's Book of Lists as the second best location in Chicago in which to purchase a home.

Erin reported that the new Strategic Plan for Economic Development will be shared with the EDC next week via email with the hope of receiving related comments that will allow the plan to move forward to the DPZ Committee and the full City Council. She also mentioned the emerging Elmhurst Hospital facility on North York, pending retail leases at Elmhurst 255, the opening of Red Arrow Tap Room and Cottage Hill Station, that Flight 112 is for sale, and activity at the Beerheads site at First & York. She is also working on researching the various incentive programs offered in the metro area so that the City can compare its activities for the future.

John Quigley mentioned the Chamber's annual awards event this evening at The Drake Hotel, the multi-chamber economic luncheon on February 3, 2017 and a legislative summit trip to Springfield on February 8, 2017. Kevin York noted the Elmhurst College Jazz Festival, the 50th, will take place at the College from February 24-26, 2017.

The next EDC meeting is set for Friday, February 24, 2017 at Elmhurst College. Details are forthcoming.

The EDC was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.

Submitted as a draft by Ken Bartels.