

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Minutes of Friday, July 28, 2017
City Hall – Conference Room #2

Present: Bill Shanklin, Chair, Rich Reichert, Vice Chair, Maryann Gorski, Trisha Hall, Don Meyers, Tim Ricordati, Julie Coan, Nina Coppola Radke, Bill Huber, Chris LaBounty, Diane McGinnis, Brian Stolper

Absent: Kurt Schiele, Mark Anglewicz, Matt Waterwall

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

Guests: Joe Tota, Keith Brown

The EDC meeting was called to order at 7:32 a.m.

The Minutes of both the May 26, 2017 and June 23, 2017 meetings were approved as submitted.

There were no public comments.

Bill Shanklin shared an article with the EDC on cyber-security and the importance of being covered and aware of this growing issue for businesses.

Erin Jason reported that the annual Real Estate Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 from 3-5 p.m. at a location to be confirmed.

There were ten retention visits noted.

Mike Kopp informed the EDC that the downtown zoning ordinance will be before the City Council on August 7, 2017 for final approval. He also shared that the Houseal-Lavigne Subarea Plans are progressing. Area stakeholder meetings have been completed with a visioning workshop set for August 29, 2017 at City Hall. Mike asked EDC members to share with him any comments heard regarding the Elmhurst Trolley program. Ridership is way up, but comments from businesses would be helpful. Elmhurst 255 is filling up nicely, FFC should get a September start and the OPUS project should start with a September building site demolition.

Erin gave a citywide update and mentioned: Victory Meat and Seafood in the former Salseria site, The Club will have a new façade and back garden seating, Victoria On Main in the former Coldstone site, Evelyn on Second opening soon, Kania going into the former Wok-N-Fire site, Pinot's Palette moving forward with their build-out, FVP Racing is open in the York Center Building, Brewpoint's roasting facility is ongoing, Doc' Victory Tap perhaps open this Fall, Beerhead open at York & First Streets and Euroview Glass.

John Quigley mentioned the Chamber's annual New Teachers Luncheon will be on August 7, 2017. He also reported that the Chamber plans to begin to offer Certificates of Origin, needed for overseas shipping, again after a many year lapse. As an advance part of the Chamber's 100th anniversary in 2018, a state-of-the-art, new web site will go live on August 1, 2017.

The EDC was pleased to welcome two guests and their brief presentations. Joe Tota, owner of Red Arrow Tap Room on First Street, indicated that his business is ahead of its projections since its opening in January Of 2017. He noted Elmhurst's amazing growth, family-friendly nature, City incentives and excellent City Staff as reasons for his opening in Elmhurst. A second location is underway in Lisle, Illinois. Keith Brown and his wife, Amy, will be opening Evelyn on Second on Second Street in September or October of this year. It is their second store, their first is in Downers Grove. The store will feature home décor items and craft clothes for women and infants. The store should be a compliment to other stores similar to it already in Elmhurst. City incentives, train commuters, Elmhurst's 'style' and helpful City Staff were cited for the decision to open here.

The next EDC meeting will be on Friday, August 25, 2017 at City Hall.

The EDC was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Submitted as a draft by Ken Bartels.