

Elmhurst Economic Development Commission
Minutes of Friday, November 22, 2019
City Hall – Conference Room #2

Present: Bill Shanklin, Chair, Rich Reichert, Vice Chair, Diane McGinnis, Kasindra Mladenoff, Chris LaBounty, David Pinkerton, Maryann Gorski, Kurt Schiele, Tim Ricordati, Nina Radke

Absent: Brian Stolper, Don Meyers, Mark Anglewicz, Melissa Villanueva, Pat Wagner

Also Present: Mark Mulliner, Kevin York, Mike Kopp, Erin Jason, John Quigley, Tom Paravola, Emily Egan, Mike Litwin, Ken Bartels

The EDC was called to order by Bill Shanklin, Chair, at 7:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Rich Reichert moved to approve the EDC Minutes of October 25, 2019. Tim Ricordati seconded. Voice vote, unanimous, motion carried.

Bill Shanklin briefly discussed ‘B corporations’ and how this might be something to watch and discuss in 2020. This is a special assessment tool for businesses that is gaining momentum.

There were nine retention/business visits since last meeting.

Erin Jason provided an update on: Lennar, Greenleaf Foods, Uptown Shop, FFC, Crush Collectibles, Patriot Fitness, Elmhurst BMW, Good Kids Clothing, Elmhurst Premiere Childcare, Maxine’s, Genesis, Guac & Tacos, Jem, south Burger King and McDonald’s and Aimco. Erin also provided details on the Holly Trolley and 2020 census.

It was shared that the City of Elmhurst recently received an award as ‘Municipality of the Year’ by the Homebuilders of Greater Chicagoland Association. This is a significant award for the City.

Mike Kopp provided information on: Route 83 & North Avenue, City’s AAA bond rating, zoning code review, market analysis for our business parks and an under 2% vacancy rate in those parks. (At this point Chair Bill Shanklin left the meeting with Vice Chair Rich Reichert assuming the running of the meeting.)

Ken Bartels reported on the Business Outreach Subcommittee meeting. A new plan was shared for commissioner retention/business visits in 2020 with more discussion at the December EDC meeting. EDC meeting schedules for 2020 have also been created and shared.

Emily Egan, Assistant City Planner and Mike Litwin, City Engineer, provided an overview of the City’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Working with Civitech, citizen input is continuing to be received on how best to improve/enhance the City’s walking and bike conditions. Information gathered will be used to apply for state grants, future planning, and budgeting; the effort also can benefit land values, local businesses and sustainability. All input will lead to a draft recommendation, leading to further public comment, with a goal of having this be presented to the City Council in August 2020. www.BikeWalkElmhurst.com has more detail and the survey. Erin Jason stated that EDC participation has been requested on a focus group for the plan and asked for volunteers.

John Quigley mentioned the 2020 Chamber Directory, Holiday Business After Hours on December 12, 2019 from 5-7 p.m. at Community Bank of Elmhurst and the State of Our City date of Thursday, January 16, 2020 also at CBE. He also noted that the Elmhurst American Legion is coordinating a regional baseball event to be in Elmhurst this summer.

The next EDC meeting is Friday, December 20, 2019, not December 27, 2019 noted on the agenda, at City Hall.

Tim Ricordati moved to adjourn the meeting. Diane McGinnis seconded. Voice vote, unanimous, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Submitted as a draft by Erin Jason.