

THE PLAN COMMISSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. A quorum was present. Teresa Badillo, William Thorn, Karen Special, Patricia Letarte, John Schneider (Director of Economic Development) Patrick Ainsworth (Planner for the Department of Community Development), and Lisa Manzo (Secretary). Absent: Chairman James Caporusso, Carla Argueta, Giuliano Petrucci.

Due to the absence of Chairman Caporusso, it was unanimously decided that Member Letarte become Acting Chair for the evening.

3. Member Special made a motion to accept the minutes of October 24, 2012 as presented. Member Badillo seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.
4. New Business: Continuation of discussion of parking strategies for CM District (Pacific Avenue/Franklin Avenue) and Discussion on miscellaneous Village projects related to Planning.

John Schneider introduced himself to the members and discussed at length his experience in Planning and Economic Development. He discussed his experience, his career in various communities and knowledge in TIFs, redevelopment projects, expansions and numerous developments across the Chicagoland area and beyond.

Mr. Schneider continued to state the various projects and undertakings he has been involved in with the Village of Franklin Park. He discussed the bus tour of Franklin Park which he initiated to bring in new corporations and developers.

Mr. Schneider discussed adding various signage to the Village to introduce people while driving entering and exiting the Village.

Mr. Schneider continued to discuss the different Grants that have been awarded to Franklin Park since he came on board. These Grants will benefit the Village and bring more exposure to the Village through various zoning and planning projects. Some of the Grants are as follows: The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)-Local Technical Assistance Program. This grant was awarded on October 10, 2012, and will cover issues such as degrading infrastructure, impacts from the Elgin O'Hare

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est Bypass Project, vacant and underutilized sites and overall marketability of the area. Trevor Dick, the representative of CMAP will be working on the project. The second Grant is from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and it is a Technical Assistance Grant. It was awarded on June 18, 2012. This Grant will study the downtown district and amend the zoning for the downtown area in order to build transit oriented developments. Its ultimate goal for the downtown district is to have an updated zoning code that reflects the existing characteristics of the downtown, but also enhance the redevelopment opportunities for transit oriented development.

Mr. Schneider stated that the third Grant they are working on is with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)-Brownfield's Assessment Grant. This grant can award up to \$600,000 to the consortium to perform environmental assessment activities in the O'Hare and Northwest Suburban area. It is a combination of forming a coalition with the surrounding Villages, Franklin Park, Schiller Park, Northlake, Melrose Park, Maywood and Bellwood.

Mr. Schneider discussed promoting local businesses within the Village through mail, electronically, word of mouth and through the Chamber of Commerce. This will bring light to businesses some residents and other businesses may not be aware that exist.

Mr. Schneider discussed over 50 new businesses that have opened up within the Village over the past year, which will bring over 500 new jobs to town.

5. Old Business: Parking Plan, Subarea #2, Chestnut Avenue Parking Plan/Study, Subarea, Parking Study Area #3-A Amended – Reeves Court to Franklin Avenue Metra Station, Old Business: Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #3-B, South Downtown, Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #4, #5 and #6

Mr. Scheider discussed the parking plans with the Members and stated that he had a discussion with Chief Witz, and it was decided that the Plan Commission take a step back from these discussions until after the first of the year. He continued to state that more research needs to be conducted with this subject matter and that there are no quick solutions. He realizes all the time and effort that staff and the members have undertaken with this subject and it will not be for naught. Mr. Schneider wants to bring forth more topics in addition to parking to the members.

Mr. Schneider stated that this topic will and needs to be addressed, however more time is needed to make it more complete.

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Member Special made a motion to table Parking Plan, Subarea #2, Chestnut Avenue Parking Plan/Study, Subarea, Parking Study Area #3-A Amended – Reeves Court to Franklin Avenue Metra Station, Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #3-B, South Downtown, Parking Plan/Study, Subarea #4, #5 and #6 to a future date to be determined. Member Badillo seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Member Letarte-Yes; Member Special-Yes; Member Badillo-Yes; Member Thorn-Yes. Four (4) Ayes, Zero (0) Nays, Three (3) Absent. The motion was carried.

Member Special made a motion to reintroduce Studies 2, 3A and 3B that were discussed at length and to go before the Village Board, back to be discussed at the Plan Commission level to a future date to be determined. Member Badillo seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Member Letarte-Yes; Member Special-Yes; Member Badillo-Yes; Member Thorn-Yes. Four (4) Ayes, Zero (0) Nays, Three (3) Absent. The motion was carried.

Member Special made a motion to continue agenda item; “Occupancy/New Business Requirements” to the next regularly scheduled meeting of Wednesday, January 23, 2013. Member Badillo seconded the motion. A roll call was taken. Member Letarte-Yes; Member Special-Yes; Member Badillo-Yes; Member Thorn-Yes. Four (4) Ayes, Zero (0) Nays, Three (3) Absent. The motion was carried.

6. Old Business: Open Meetings Act Training Reminder to Members

Mr. Ainsworth reminded the members who have not taken the Open Meetings Act Training to please do so before December 31, 2012.

There was no Public Comment at this time. (no members of the public were present).

7. Member Special made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Plan Commission. It was seconded by Member Badillo. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Manzo
Secretary