

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

July 22, 2010

A meeting of the EDC was held on Thursday, July 22, 2010.

The meeting began at 8:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Giannelli, Tom Herbstritt, Don Olson and Perry DuBose.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Penar, Mike Briggs and Nick Sisto.

In the absence of Chairman Joe Penar, Don Olson chaired this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT: Jeff Eder- Community Development Director, Nicole Driskell- Community Development Administrator, and Patrick Ainsworth- Community Development Summer Intern (arrived 8:07 AM).

MOTION TO ACCEPT minutes from last official meeting held on Thursday, June 24, 2010, as presented by Nicole Driskell, was made by Mike Giannelli. Tom Herbstritt **SECONDED** the motion. **VOICE VOTE CARRIED.**

New Business:

Business Appreciation Luncheon & Speaker

Options for the keynote speaker at the annual Business Appreciation Luncheon were discussed. Mr. Eder suggested Greg Baise with the Illinois Manufacturing Association. The members discussed the suggestion and asked Mr. Eder to invite Mr. Baise to be the speaker. Date options for the luncheon were also discussed: the second week of October (specifically October 13 or October 14) was agreed upon. Mr. Olson requested a biography on Mr. Baise. Mr. Eder informed the members that he intends to address the Elgin O'Hare bypass project at the luncheon.

Old Business:

Business Retention Visits

Discussion commenced on recent Business Retention Visits. Mr. Olson inquired about the recently conducted Midwest Food Manufacturing Retention visit: discussion commenced on the facility and the outstanding landscaping issues. Mr. Giannelli inquired about the Sakrete facility. Discussion commenced on upcoming retention visits needing EDC members.

Project Updates:

The Crossings Phase II Cleanup and Grant

Mr. DuBose led a discussion regarding the Phase II cleanup: how the cleanup will be conducted and why it is so costly. Mr. Giannelli led a discussion regarding cleanup methods. Mr.

Herbstritt inquired about whether or not Phase I had sold out. Mr. Eder informed the members about sales, re-sales, foreclosures and a decrease in values of Phase I units.

Discussion commenced on the following additional topics:

- Thompson Steel demolition and impact of recent strike
- Kiddieland (Melrose Park) demolition
- Refinancing problems for property owners that are “upside down” on their loans
- Banks that obtained loans from defaulted banks
- FDIC’s management of bank buyouts

Other Topics:

Elgin O’Hare Western Bypass

Mr. Eder led a discussion regarding landlords of properties in the proposed path of the Elgin O’Hare Western Bypass not maintaining their properties and the Building Department’s management of the situation. Mr. Olson requested a review of the map of affected properties. Mr. Eder informed the members that approximately fifteen (15) buildings totaling roughly seventy-five (75) acres and nearly one million square feet of building space would be affected by the Bypass construction. Some of the larger buildings intended for demolition were discussed. Mr. Eder also discussed his work with the affected businesses to retain and relocate them in Franklin Park, what is involved in relocating these businesses and some available buildings that would suit those businesses. Mr. Eder informed the members of the meeting he held for affected companies and IDOT to discuss relocation. Mr. Herbstritt inquired about the State’s procurement process for these properties.

Economic Development Focus Group

Discussion commenced on the proposed focus group and previous focus groups. Topics included:

- Breakdown of various required focus groups
- Facilitators/moderators
- Goals of focus groups: find out what is best for Franklin Park and local businesses
- Order in which focus groups should be heard
 - Businesses will give local perspective and should be heard first
 - Real estate brokers will give outside point of view and should be heard second
- Potential insights/conclusions to help Franklin Park
- Dates

Being no further business before the Commission, Perry Dubose **MADE A MOTION** to adjourn. Mike Giannelli **SECONDED** the motion. **VOICE VOTE CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Driskell