

Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission
August 13th, 2008
Meeting Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting called to order at 1802 by Jimmie Harris.

In Attendance:

Jimmie Harris (Chairman)

Terry Isaacs (Secretary)

Pat DiPersio (Economic Development Director)

Members: Margo Nelson, Bob Long, Carl Simmons, Ken Jones, Gary Powell, Kurt Melander and Buddy Hargett.

Not present: Harold Logaras (Member At Large), Julie Gonka, Shelley Walker.

II. Approval of Minutes of July 9th, 2008 meeting.

MOTION was made by Margo Nelson and seconded by Kurt Melander to approve the minutes with one slight amendment to clarify a statement. MOTION passed.

III. Chairman's Report:

- i.** Pat led a discussion on the Q1 progress report on 2008 EDC. Per the goals list, several items were discussed. Kurt inquired about replacement flower pots and insurance claims to recover replacement costs. Bob explained that there had been no reports of incidents up to this point. Carl is working on a method for compensation for damaged pots. Bob inquired as to any results regarding marketing of local businesses; Pat replied that the village is doing what it can to market them. With regards to Sheridan Road improvements and beautification, a MOTION was made by Carl and seconded by Kurt to have the EDC recommend to the village board that the village entries be improved by possibly adding a separate frame for service club signs and improved lighting and displays. MOTION passed. A lively discussion ensued with regards to goal 5, connecting the village and residents to the lakefront.
- ii.** Buddy briefly discussed Turning Ideas into Action with a review of the PowerPoint handouts provided in the packets.

IV. Committee Reports:

1. Marina Relations.

- i. National Marina Day** – Pat indicated that the 2008 event was successful, with much higher traffic at night than during the day. Pat also indicated that additional activities may be needed to increase traffic during the day.
- ii. Lakefront Development Update** – Pat stated that the development plans were in the hands of the marina manager, and that there is no additional update at this time.

2. Infrastructure.

- i. Pedestrian Bridge.** Kurt stated that the village board has approved the painting of the bridge.
- ii. Metra Expansion Update** – Plans have been approved and Pat attended a pre-construction meeting, where there may be some delays in construction. The project must be completed by June 2009. A Metra usage survey was reviewed, and Kurt asked if the survey range can be expanded to include Pleasant Prairie and Kenosha. Also, per Pat, the EDC should prepare a recommendation for the village board regarding parking fee amounts and parking policies.

3. Marketing.

- i. TIF – Update: No updates at this time.**
- ii. Concerts in the Park** – Considered a successful event per Pat. Attendance ranged between 50-150 people during the concerts. Pat indicated that more marketing will need to be done and that start times may need to be tweaked. MOTION to continue the concert series in 2009 made by Margo, and seconded by Gary. MOTION passed.
- iii. ICSC Retail Connection** – Pat provided a recap of his visit to the event.
- iv. ICSC Chicago Dealmaking** – Pat indicated that he would visit that event as well in October in an effort to continue exploring opportunities to market Winthrop Harbor.

4. Financial.

- i. Nothing to report at this time**

5. Legal.

- i. Sign, Landscape, and Lighting Ordinances** – Kurt and Pat will assist Bob in drafting the landscaping ordinance for presentation to the board.

6. Political Liaison

- i. Jimmie** discussed the letter to the Lake County Forest Preserve which addressed draining issues and concerns.

7. Other Business

- i.** Gary inquired about the possibility of having more Christmas decorations in town; while Kurt indicated that power problems are the main obstacle to additional lighted decorations. Carl did agree that the current decorations are rather old. Carl also mentioned that he would like to see a revival of the street dances that were an annual event in the village, and some lively discussion and reminiscences ensued regarding that topic.

V. Notices/Handouts:

Next EDC Meeting scheduled for 10 September 2008.
Newsletter Article for Sep/Oct 2008.
PowerPoint handouts for Turning Ideas into Action.

VI. Adjournment.

MOTION made by Margo and seconded by Bob to adjourn. MOTION passed.
The meeting was adjourned at 1947.

Submitted by Terry Isaacs, Secretary, Economic Development Commission.