

**Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission**  
**July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call Meeting to Order.**

Meeting called to order at 1805 by Jimmie Harris.

In Attendance:

Jimmie Harris (Chairman)

Julie Gonka (Vice-Chairman)

Terry Isaacs (Secretary)

Pat DiPersio (Economic Development Director)

Members: Margo Nelson, Bob Long, Carl Simmons, Ken Jones, Shelley Walker and Buddy Hargett

**Not present:** Harold Logaras (Member At Large), Gary Powell, Kurt Melander

**II. Approval of Minutes of June 11th, 2008 meeting.**

Motion was made by Ken Jones and seconded by Margo Nelson to approve the minutes with one slight amendment to clarify a statement. Motion Passed.

**III. Chairman's Report:**

- i. Jimmie welcomed new members Shelley Walker and Buddy Hargett to the EDC.
- ii. Pat led a brief discussion of the material attached to the commission member packets regarding the creation of an employment center, whether it is for R&D, advanced manufacturing, or data centers, in addition to marketing Winthrop sites Harbor as shovel ready for developers.

**IV. Committee Reports:**

**1. Marina Relations: Nothing to report.**

**2. Infrastructure.**

- i. **Stone pathways** – Carl indicated that new stone was being placed by the gazebo for a new path.
- ii. **Pedestrian Bridge.** Pat indicated that the county has moved the timetable to inspect the bridge, due to the recent flooding, but still anticipate having it completed in July.
- i. **BPIP Applications** – Pat indicated that funds for the program have not yet been approved by the board.

### **3. Marketing.**

- i. TIF – Update:** The development Pro-Forma has been completed and NextGen has sent them back to the developer for comment and/or revisions.
- ii. Concerts in the Park** – Scheduled to start on July 19<sup>th</sup>, Margo inquired about chairs, and Pat indicated that chairs would be available for those that need them. Pat discussed promotion methods and promotion materials for concerts. Bob indicated that press releases can be generated and sent to local media outlets. Also, Pat said that Dockside Deli inquired about concessions to which Carl indicated that if they wanted to have concessions, they could setup in front of the chamber. Shelley asked about business sponsors, to which Pat answered that that option has not yet been investigated.

### **4. Financial.**

- i. Nothing to report at this time**

### **5. Legal.**

- i. Local Venture Capital Fund** – Pat discussed the concept and options of establishing our own fund for developments. Bob indicated that North Chicago has had one in place for awhile, but has proved to be fairly ineffective.

### **6. Political Liaison**

- i. Jimmie** indicated that there is not much to report. He did mention that he was trying to get the DNR Administrator to visit the marina.

### **7. Other Business**

- i. EDC Chair request** – Jimmie requested EDC members to try to come up with some ideas for the village. Pat contacted Metra regarding the station improvements; Metra indicated they are closer to starting construction and that the proper funds have been moved to the correct accounts. Pat also said that Trustee Swindle inquired about PACE or more Metra stops for the village. He talked to State Senator, Mark Kirk and State Rep. JoAnn Osmond and was told a survey is needed to determine the feasibility of such a request. Carl mentioned the new bench by the ESDA building that is dedicated to Jimmie, for years of devoted service to the village.

## **V. Notices/Handouts:**

Next EDC Meeting scheduled for 13 August 2008.  
National Marina Day/ Venetian Festival is August 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Downtown Summer Concert Series Flyer  
SUPA Pro-am fishing tournament August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**VI. Adjournment.**

Motion made by Margo and seconded by Bob to adjourn. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1912.

Submitted by Terry Isaacs, Secretary, Economic Development Commission.