

Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission
June 11th , 2008
Meeting Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Julie Gonka.

In Attendance:

Julie Gonka (Vice-Chairman)

Terry Isaacs (Secretary)

Pat DiPersio (Economic Development Director)

Members: Kurt Melander, Margo Nelson, Gary Powell, Carl Simmons, Ken Jones.

Not present: Jimmie Harris (Chairman), Harold Logaras (Member At Large), Bob Long

Guests: Joe Leech, Mayor, Shelley Walker and Buddy Hargett, village residents.

II. Approval of Minutes of May 14th, 2008 meeting.

Motion was made by Margo Nelson and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Passed.

III. Chairman's Report:

- i. Introduction of Shelley Walker, a local resident that would like to join the commission.
- ii. Brief discussion regarding methods of highlighting the positive aspects of Winthrop Harbor.

IV. Committee Reports:

1. Marina Relations:

- i. **Lakefront Happenings – New article title needed.** The discussion about a new title for the article began when suggestions for names was solicited by Pat. Some names suggested include “Downtown Doings” and “Business Buzz”. Pat will conduct a preliminary survey later in an effort to determine the best name. No action taken.
- ii. **WH Yacht Club.** No feedback from the Yacht Club at this time.

2. Infrastructure.

- i. **Spring Flower Pots** – All flowers are planted and doing well, although some plants may have been lost due to a recent bout of frost. (Kurt)
- ii. **Pedestrian Bridge.** Pat indicated that the county has agreed to inspect the bridge at their cost, sometime after 17 June 2008. Public works will cover that cost, which is anticipated at less than \$1000.
- iii. **BPIP Applications** – Pat indicated that there are two applications on the village board agenda for 1 July 2008. One application has been endorsed for approval by the committee, while one has not.
- iv. **North Shore – North Planning Council.** Pat has indicated that this is a new group being formed to discuss potential types of economic development within the Sheridan Road corridor. Despite some anxiety over the formation and coordination of the new group, Pat will monitor it and keep the commission apprised of any progress.

3. Marketing.

- i. **TIF – Update:** The development Pro-Forma has been received and NextGen will be contacted regarding a review, which is estimated to take up two weeks. If the review is successful, then development agreement discussions will begin. (Pat)
- ii. **Concerts in the Park** – One schedule change noted; the band “Crossroads” will be performing rather than “Blues Deluxe” on 19 July 2008. Pat discussed promotion methods and promotion materials for concerts. The gazebo will be used for the sound system, and the shuttle bus will be providing special runs and it was discussed about expanding shuttle service to Pleasant Prairie. Other promotion ideas consisted of Kurt suggesting a soft drink sponsor with a refreshment trailer, or rotating local business concessions. Pat talked with the chamber regarding promoting local businesses. The mayor suggested that the village tourism funds may pay for banners. Other concerns mentioned by Carl and Pat were regarding traffic, and the fire hydrant near the stage. Seating was also mentioned by Pat, while Kurt suggested patrons bring their own, Margo suggested that the village provide for handicapped patrons.
- iii. **Boaters Welcome Flyer.** Pat created a rough flyer and discussed distribution methods to boaters with Dave Suthard, the GM of the marina, who indicated that there should be no issues in distributing flyers directly to the boaters.
- iv. **LCP’s Shovel Ready Sites Task Force** – Pat discussed joining this task force and the concept behind it.

4. Financial.

- i. Nothing to report at this time**

5. Legal.

- i. Nothing to report at this time**

6. Political Liaison

- i. Tri-Community meeting** – Pat discussed plan of making the area better through these meetings and the concepts of these meetings. Target areas are the community and local businesses. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 June 2008, and all are invited to attend.

7. Other Business

- i. Mayoral request** – The Kiwanis annual Christmas ornament sale is soon, and the Mayor would like to solicit ideas for pictures on the ornaments, preferably a Winthrop Harbor icon or similar theme. Julie indicated she had some pictures she would bring into Pat for review.

V. Notices/Handouts:

Advance copy of EDC article.
Next EDC Meeting scheduled for 9 July 2008.

VI. Adjournment.

Motion made by Margo and seconded by Ken to adjourn. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1905.

Submitted by Terry Isaacs, Secretary, Economic Development Commission.