

Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission
May 14th, 2008
Meeting Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting called to order at 1900.

In Attendance:

Jimmie Harris (Chairman)

Julie Gonka (Vice-Chairman)

Terry Isaacs (Secretary)

Pat DiPersio (Economic Development Director)

Members: Bob Long, Kurt Melander, Margo Nelson, Gary Powell, Carl Simmons.

Not present: Harold Logaras (Member At Large), Ken Jones.

Guests: Gene Baker and Buddy Hargett, village residents.

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

Motion was made by Jimmie Harris and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Passed.

III. Chairman's Report:

- i.** Harbor Pharmacy has closed, and the EDC has sent a thank you letter to Mr. Louie Abboud and family for many years of service to the community.
- ii.** Discussion regarding changing the EDC meeting start time to 6:00PM. Motion made by Jimmie Harris and seconded to change the start time to 6:00PM, effective immediately. Motion Passed. New start time to be effective for the June 11th 2008 meeting.
- iii.** Review of key studies of Big Box retail stores. Brief discussion of material and methods of studies.
- iv.** Discussed the possible need for a lobbyist to represent the Village in Springfield. Lively discussion with the following recommendations made: a more detailed proposal is needed in addition to more information needed.

IV. Committee Reports:

1. Marina Relations:

- i. **Lakefront Development – Do we need a lobbyist?** Although the topic was initially covered in the chairman's report, the discussion continued on the topic of developing the marina, and how a lobbyist could assist. No action taken.
- ii. **WH Yacht Club correspondence.** Discussion regarding options for yacht club involvement in the community, and which would be the best way to liaison with the WHYC. Margo made a MOTION to draft a letter to Trustee Mike Bruno, and the Recreation Board chair, as well as a copy to Scott Fuller, with the intent of scheduling a meeting with the YC to develop ideas for continued YC involvement and synergy within the community. Motion PASSED.

2. Infrastructure.

- i. **Metra Expansion** – Bids are back, and construction is expected to begin in mid-summer.
- ii. **Spring Flower Pots.** Kurt stated that planting will begin on 24 May 2008, and that the Girl Scouts will be assisting.
- iii. **Streetscape** – The application for Streetscape has been submitted, with \$1.5M requested on a projected \$2.2M project.
- iv. **Pedestrian Bridge** – The quote for painting the bridge has been revised to \$14K, but questions of safety have arisen. The village would like the bridge to be inspected prior to painting, but no recommendation as to how that will be accomplished has been determined. No action taken; but options being considered include contacting Lake County to determine if they can complete the inspection.
- v. **Shuttle Bus** – Service area and options are on the village board agenda for the next board meeting.

3. Marketing.

- i. **TIF – Update:** The MOU has been approved and signed between the village and LM Development Partners, with NextGen working on the financials.
- ii. **Concerts in the Park** – Some concerns regarding concert decibel levels have been brought up. The vendor handling the concert line-ups indicated being familiar with sound issues in residential areas, and will act to curb any problems.
- iii. **Lake County Partners** – Annual fees due. MOTION made by Margo to pay dues, with fees split between LCP and LCTA, with \$750.00 to LCP, and \$250.00 to LCTA. Motion PASSED.

4. Financial.

- i. EDC 2008 Budget.** Pat has informed the EDC budget has been approved for 2008, minus a line item of \$10K listed in "Projects to be determined".
- ii. Sales Tax and Property Tax incentive options -** Reviewed the memorandum and very briefly discussed options. No action taken.

5. Legal.

- i. Annexation Process/Guidelines –** Topic reviewed by Bob Long. Process described as fairly straight forward and simple where contiguous land is involved. Also mentioned is that there are numerous methods of annexation.

6. Political Liaison

- i. Recap April 28/08 Transportation Summit –** Pat recapped the meeting and briefly discussed the map of the capital spending plans, as indicated by the memorandum.

V. Notices/Handouts:

Thank-you letter to Mr. Louie Abboud.
Letter to Harbor Animal Hospital commending them on their 20th Anniversary.
Key studies on Big-Box Retail
Proposal from the Hunter Group for Lobbyist services.
Metra contract updates
Streetscape improvement information.
Bridge painting and inspection memorandum.
Harbor Shuttle service area memorandum.
LCP Proposed 2008 Action Plan
Development incentives memorandum.
Transportation summit memorandum.
Next EDC Meeting scheduled for 11 June 2008.

VI. Adjournment .

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Motion Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2041.

Submitted by Terry Isaacs, Acting Secretary, Economic Development Commission.