

Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission
February 11th, 2009
Meeting Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Jimmie Harris.

In Attendance:

Jimmie Harris (Chairman)

Julie Gonka (Vice Chair)

Terry Isaacs (Secretary)

Pat DiPersio (Economic Development Director)

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

Not present: Harold Logaras (Member At Large).

Guest present: Kimberly Braden.

II. Approval of Minutes of January 14th, 2009 meeting.

MOTION was made to approve minutes by Margo Nelson and seconded by Carl Simmons to approve the minutes. MOTION passed.

III. Chairman's Report:

- i.** ZB News article & Baseball. Jimmie opened by discussing the new baseball team and stadium that is locating in Zion.
- ii.** Role of the EDC and the Village Board in development plans. He also thanked the EDC for the planning and actions regarding the triangle, and maintaining excellent relations with the village board
- iii.** Federal stimulus plan and requests for funding. Pat indicated that he was watching the lists of requests to ensure that Winthrop Harbor streetscape was included as a shovel ready site. When more details are available Pat will let the EDC know.
- iv.** Public awareness/requests for support MRMC/CTCA. Jimmie indicated that letters were sent out, and some replies were received. Pat also discussed the new business directories, and that they were updated based on current licenses. Pat gave out eight copies out for review. Pat has a quote for 2000 copies for \$2225, 3000 for \$2920, and 4000 for \$3380. Pat has asked how the EDC would like to approach this. A MOTION was made by Julie Gonka to have 3000 printed for distribution. SECOND by Ken Jones. MOTION passed.

IV. Committee Reports:

1. Marina Relations.

- i. **Lakefront Development Resolution** – Pat reviewed the resolution passed by the village board promoting a carefully planned economic development on the Lake Michigan lakefront. Pat also noted that this resolution has also been passed by several other communities as well, and he has provided copies to the county.

2. Infrastructure.

- i. **Metra Expansion Parking Fees**–Parking fees, the recommendation of \$1.50 per day has been approved by Metra and the village board. Pat explain that although \$2.00 was initially requested, it was felt that \$1.50 was the practical limit to charge.
- ii. **Public Transportation survey recap** – Jimmie indicated that all of the info was contained in the packet, and was self-explanatory. No questions were asked.

3. Marketing.

- i. **Triangle Update** – Pat spoke to the developer, and indicated that they were generally satisfied with the agreement, but had some questions with the timing of the money. Pat has asked for a formalized response and what they expected. They have been working well with the village. Pat reviewed finance options.
- ii. **Updated land/site inventory** – Pat has provided a land/site inventory for the EDC packet. The list is shorter than last year, and there is less space available. Discussion ensued regarding specific land use where daycare facilities and churches are concerned. Discussion turned to the PZB approval of a changing the current zoning to allow these types of businesses. A MOTION was made by Julie Gonka to draft a letter to the VB that the proposed changes to the zoning are a cause for concern to the EDC and its potential economic impact to the village. SECOND by Carl Simmons. Bob Long PASSED. MOTION passed. Pat also indicated that some type of process must be put in place to have some type of review of all petition applications; cross-communication between departments that would help to determine economic, public works, or zoning impacts must be implemented. Much discussion ensued.
- iii. **2009 summer concert series** – Gary discussed that dates and times were reviewed. July 11, 18, 25, August 1st are the dates for the concerts, from 5 – 6:30 PM. More information will follow regarding warm-up bands or open mic sessions.
- iv. **ICSC Idea Exchange Feb 25-26** – Pat reported that he will be attending this symposium and will present a report at the next EDC meeting.

- v. **Planning for minor league baseball team** – Brief discussion of the new ball park and the anticipated economic impact to the surrounding communities, and how the village might be best suited to capitalize on the new ballpark.

4. Political Liaison.

- i. **January 28th meeting with Pleasant Prairie staff** – Pat indicated that he and Jana Lee met with Pleasant Prairie staff regarding the development of land adjacent to the village and a potential relocation of an adult business closer to the village on Sheridan Road in PP. Both communities are against the possible relocation and have expressed interest in working together to prevent this from happening. Much discussion ensued. Bob Long indicated that the Mayor will have a resolution drafted to strongly object to any relocation of any adult businesses near the village.

Old Business: Jimmie indicated that Lake County will work with us to help update the comprehensive plan, which was last updated in 1995.

V. Notices/Handouts:

Next EDC Meeting scheduled for 11 March 2009.

VI. Adjournment.

MOTION made by Ken Jones and seconded by Gary Powell to adjourn.
MOTION passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1959.

Submitted by Terry Isaacs, Secretary, Economic Development Committee.