

Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission
October 14, 2009
Meeting Minutes

I. Call Meeting to Order.

Meeting called to order at 1801 by Chairman Margo Nelson.

In Attendance:

Pat DiPersio, Economic Development Director

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

Not present (excused): Terry Isaacs, Bob Long, Ken Jones

Guests present: Trustee Kimberly Braden.

II. Approval of Minutes of August 12, 2009 meeting

Meeting minutes were not available.

III. Chairperson Report: Margo Nelson

- i. **7th Street Streetscape Update** – Margo reported the Village has been approved to receive stimulus money for \$2 million dollars. Margo also reported the sign ordinance went to Board for first reading and is scheduled for the second and final reading at the first meeting in November. Also, the Metra station is completed. Margo thanked the committee for all their efforts.

IV. Committee Reports:

1. Development Planning:

- ii. **Development Strategies for Key Parcels Report** - Pat reported he has an intern who is working for 10 weeks and is currently working on a Power Point presentation for the key parcel report.
- iii. **Metra Expansion and Parking Fees Update – Carl/Kurt** – reported they have received great feedback regarding the improvements that have been made. There is currently 25 six month passes. Carl also stated more landscaping will be done near the warming house. Pat thanked Kurt, Carl and Anthony for all their volunteer efforts while “welcoming” everyone on opening day and as a result we have not had one complaint.

2. Marketing/Special Events:

- i. **Summer Concert Series** – Shelley reported the concert committee met to discuss event details, such as locations, times, dates and, sponsorship opportunities. We are looking at various organizations for sponsorship opportunities.

4. ED Director Report:

- i. Sign Ordinance passed first reading.** Pat sent a letter to the businesses alerting them about the upcoming ordinance to get familiar with it. Pat said he received some feedback. This ordinance will affect temporary signs along Sheridan Road. The committee talked in detail about how this will affect the downtown area.
- ii. ICSC Chicago Dealmaking Show October 28 – 30th** – Pat reported he is updating the marking materials for the show. He is hoping to target the Triangle and the 9th and Lewis properties at the show.

5. Unfinished Business:

- i.** Lakefront report Update – Buddy reported the letter was well received by the Board. The Board asked the EDC for an additional letter to send to our Elected Officials outlining our concerns with the lakefront. Buddy explained there are several options we could explore to enhance our beach and reach our goal via our local and state officials. The committee led a discussion regarding an action letter which should be sent to these elected officials.
Kurt added he would like to add his volunteer efforts to ensure a successful Tree Lighting Ceremony this year. Trustee Braden also offered to help work with John Hogan.
Trustee Braden introduced Jen Levin to the committee. Jen is interested in joining the EDC and will attend the meetings.

V. Notices/Handouts:

- i.** November 11, 2009 Next EDC Meeting
- ii.** September 17, 2009 ZB News Article – Lakefront
- iii.** September 24, 2009 ZB News Article – Streetscape
- iv.** October 8, 2009 ZB News Article – Sign Ordinance

VI. Adjournment.

Motion made by Gary and seconded by Cy to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Submitted by Shelley Walker, Secretary, Economic Development Commission.