

**Winthrop Harbor Economic Development Commission**  
**November 11, 2009**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call Meeting to Order.**

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Chairman Margo Nelson.

In Attendance:

Pat DiPersio, Economic Development Director

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

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

Guests present: Trustee Kimberly Braden.

**Approval of Minutes for September and October, 2009 meeting**

Motion made by Ken and seconded by Kurt to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

**III. Chairperson Report: Margo Nelson**

- i. **7<sup>th</sup> Street Streetscape Update** – Margo reported the Board has agreed to find a way to fund the \$600,000 matching requirement for the streetscape improvements. The project will be bid as a part of the January 15, 2010 state letting.

**IV. Committee Reports:**

**1. Development Planning:**

- ii. **Development Strategies for Key Parcels Report** - Pat reported Tony is moving forward working on assessment report adding more information.

**2. Marketing/Special Events:**

- i. **Summer Concert Series** – Pat reported the committee met on October 21 and agreed to have concerts in the park on the weekends. The committee will be working on sponsorship opportunities and fundraising options to fund the concert series since it is expected that the village will not be able to fund the event as in previous years.

**4. ED Director Report:**

- i. **Sign Ordinance passed first reading.** Pat thanked Kurt and Carl for supporting the sign ordinance and attending the Board meeting. Margo reported Goldstein led discussion on behalf of the local business owners saying the way the ordinance is written has led to many misunderstandings. The Board decided they would allow feedback through December 1 to gather input on language and make last minute changes. A final vote on the matter is expected sometime in December or January. Margo added that the Trustees did a nice job explaining all existing permanent signs will be grandfathered. The change will affect

new signs and temporary signs. The purpose is to give Winthrop Harbor a “facelift”!

- ii. ICSC Chicago Dealmaking Show Report** – Pat reported the overall feedback from the show was retail is quiet at this time, due to economy. He focused on 9<sup>th</sup> & Lewis and Triangle. He brought back brochures to show committee. He made 16 new contacts!
- 5. Unfinished Business:**
  - i. Lakefront report Update** – Buddy reported the letter has been sent out to Senator Bond with our request and we are waiting for a response. Trustee Braden spoke with Congresswoman Melissa Bean. She stressed the importance of cleaning up our beach.
- V. Notices/Handouts:**
  - i. December 9, 2009 Next EDC Meeting**
  - ii. IML Questions and Answers on Gaming Act**
  - iii. October 30, 2009 Tribune Article on Racine Condos**
- VI. Adjournment.**

Motion made by Buddy and seconded by Gary to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Submitted by Shelley Walker, Secretary, Economic Development Commission.