

MINUTES FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD JANUARY 8, 2018, 5:30PM

Members present: Chairman Tom Bilot, Vice-Chair Brian McManus, Rick Wier, Caryle Babcock, Tom Dillon, Sandy Jaskulski, Greg Schlecht, Charles Buechel, Jay Iverson, Mayor Ken Tutaj, City Administrator Mark Johnsrud, , and City Engineer/ Director of Public Works Melinda Dejewski.

Excused: Committee Members: Committee Member Bryan Kamm.

Also present: – Tom Kiepczynski.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm by Chairman Tom Bilot.

2. Resignation of Chairperson

Tom Bilot announced his resignation of the Chair of the Economic Development Committee. He will remain on the committee but as a regular member, not as the Chair.

3. Election of Chairperson

Committee Member Wier nominated Brian McManus. City Engineer Dejewski asked if there were any other nominations. There were none. A motion was made by Committee Member Wier, seconded by Committee Member Buechel to elect Brian McManus as Chairperson for the Economic Development Committee. Motion carried.

4. Minutes

A motion was made by Committee Member Wier, seconded by Mayor Tutaj to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Items

A. Business of the Year Dinner

There was discussion on the 2019 Business of the Year Dinner. This year is the 50th year. There was a suggestion of having a large event at the Lion's Community Center and inviting all the past recipients to the dinner and honoring all St. Francis businesses. This would then be the last dinner and a new event could take its place. The Committee decided to form a sub-committee to work on the dinner. The volunteers were: Committee Member Babcock, Committee Member Kamm, Committee Member Schlecht, City Engineer Dejewski and City Administrator Johnsrud. There was additional discussion on possible speakers, ways to advertise the event, and possible new functions. No action was taken on this item.

B. Marketing/Development Plan for Kinnickinnic Corners

Chairman McManus reviewed the December meeting where Mr. Jay Blue of Ayers presented the outline for the upcoming workshop. The date of the workshop is January 30, 2019 from 4pm to 8pm. The Common Council, Planning Commission and 3 developers have been invited. The Committee asked for Mike Campbell to be invited as well.

C. 2019 Economic Development Committee Goals

Chairman McManus stated that as he understand it, in the past, the EDC has been a liaison for the Business of the Year dinner. He wants to know what goals the Committee should have for 2019. There was discussion regarding a mission statement. It was decided that a mission statement specific to the EDC was not necessary. Committee Member Wier stated that he would want taxes to go down. Chairman McManus state that he wants to let others know what the committee does. There was discussion on how to accomplish the outreach – websites, newsletter, meeting attendance.

City Administrator Johnsrud stated that the EDC could help development by supporting the development approved the Common Council, Planning Commission and CDA. This way, the City has one voice. The perception of St. Francis needs to be changed from “Where is St. Francis?” to “Oh, St. Francis!”.

Chairman McManus stated some possible goals: development plans, Business of the Year (sub-committee) Reach out to business community to let citizens and businesses know that the EDC exists.

City Administrator Johnsrud suggested that many of the outreach ideas could be handled through the Southshore Chamber of Commerce or the Civic Association since many businesses are members. The Chamber or Civic Association could arrange business walkthroughs once per quarter.

Chairman McManus requested that each committee member bring 1 or 2 goals besides the Business of the Year dinner and KK Corners Development plan for 2019.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Adjourn

A motion was made by Committee Member Bilot, seconded by City Engineer Dejewski to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.