

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

February 20, 2019

The meeting of the Economic Development Commission called to order at 5:30 p.m. on February 20, 2019 by Commissioner Nat Rosasco.

PRESENT: Nat Rosasco, Ben Gulino, Larry Calvert, Dave Casey, Ghada Fahmy and Tony Oddo.

OTHERS PRESENT: Economic Development Director Jan Fiola and Trustee Nick Cuzzone.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes for the Economic Development Commission for January 16, 2019 approved. Motion to accept the minutes made by Commissioner Tony Oddo and seconded by Commissioner Ben Gulino. The motion passed with all ayes.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Chair, Nat Rosasco was pleased to announce that the new "Yes Villa Park" website was launched on February 15th and has already generated hits. It was also recommended that all commissioners take a close look to see if updates/changes could be made. Discussion surrounded various ideas to further market the website, enhance it and draw further attention to Villa Park. Additional meetings to be arranged to discuss marketing ideas and how to implement them.

Director Fiola gave a brief update on new developments including new businesses getting ready to open in the near future. This includes a Curling Club, indoor Batting Cages and Bulldog's Ale House, Mijos' Tacos and I Love Fry's down on Villa Avenue. Unfortunately, the Firehouse Subs on Roosevelt Road closed, but the location on North Avenue has a new owners.

Director continues discussions with various developers for both the Kenilworth Townhome area and the Garden Station Project. No real movement on repairs to the Old Post Office and apparently there is a stalemate between Oak Brook and Thornton's, resulting in holding up the new gas station on Roosevelt Road.

Finally, commissioners were urged to contact Willowbrook High School to assist/present for Career Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Dave Casey announced that Mike's Meat Market will be celebrating its 50th year in business.

Commissioner Nat Rosasco stated he is very excited to see all the changes in town and the changes keep coming at a fast pace. He also stated that Director Fiola is doing a great job pulling this all together for the economic growth of Villa Park. All commissioners agreed. Commissioner Larry Calvert inquired about articles for the Garden Club, he will submit information for the next addition of Village Matters.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Tony Oddo and seconded by Commissioner, Ben Gulino. The motion passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pat Boksha