

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

July 17, 2019

The meeting of the Economic Development Commission was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on July 17, 2019 by Commissioner Nat Rosasco.

PRESENT: Ghada Fahmy, Dave Casey, Tony Oddo and Ben Gulino.

OTHERS PRESENT: Economic Development Director Patrick Burke and Trustee Nick Cuzzone.

PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes for the Economic Development Commission for June 19, 2019 were approved. Motion to accept the minutes made by Commissioner Ben Gulino and seconded by Commissioner Ghada Fahmy and passed with all ayes.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Director Burke spent some time with Olive Street Design discussing the "Yes Villa Park" website and how to enhance it. It was decided to create a Business page in order to feature various businesses in town. They are looking to start with 5 business owners and grow from there. Additionally, new information regarding upcoming events will be posted. The site will need continued updates.

Fuel & Crème has opened and is doing very well. Kenilworth developers closed on the property and is moving forward with the groundbreaking and construction. Midas on North Avenue has been demolished and Bucky's is now in the position to move forward with construction.

Discussion regarding the village owned property on North Avenue is still ongoing as with the access for the cell towers.

The village has purchased property on Wildwood to relocate a business from Villa Avenue in order to free up more space for parking. However, work needs to be completed prior to opening surface parking. All should be in place for next spring.

There are two businesses currently looking for space. One is a restaurant and the other is the Villa Park Boxing Club.

Commissioner Oddo expressed concerns regarding the parking issues on South Villa Avenue. Discussion continued on how to resolve the various disputes, which include employee parking and signage. There was a variance granted to Fuel and Crème for no parking on their property, bike racks taking up too much space. It was stated that with some businesses, the employee turnover can be high and they will need to be instructed on where to park. In addition, Commissioner Oddo will be talking with business owners to see what concerns and solutions they may have and then a possible meeting to be set with village personnel and the owners to come to a conclusion to the problem.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Trustee Wagner presented information on solar panels and an upcoming free educational seminar on August 27th at Iowa Community Center. This program could save homeowners money on future bills. .

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

All commissioners present wished Patrick Grobe a welcome; he currently lives in town and works for Schaumberger Brothers. He will be an asset to the commission.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Ben Gulino and seconded by Commissioner, Dave Casey. The motion passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pat Boksha