

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

April 20, 2016

The meeting of the Economic Development Commission was called to order at 5:35 p.m. on April 20, 2016.

**PRESENT:** Nat Rosasco, Larry Calvert, Ben Gulino, Dave Casey Joanne Marcotte and Tony Oddo.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Economic Development Director Jan Fiola and Trustees Al Bulthuis and Nick Cuzzone.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes for the Economic Development Commission for February 17, 2016 were approved. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Commissioner Larry Calvert and seconded by Commissioner Tony Oddo. The motion passed with all ayes.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Director Fiola was pleased to inform the committee that the Real Estate Brokers and Business Owners luncheon was a well-attended event with a variety of information. Some of the highlights were; the benefits of the TIF Districts, presentation for a new development, current development and their progress, advantages of living in Villa Park. Among the speakers were District 88, Choose DuPage and Golden Spike. Also involved were current business owners speaking about the aspects of growing and the easy of working with the Village.

In addition, Director Fiola advised the committee that permits are up 3 times more than last year. Street improvements are continuing and the information can be located on the village web-site. Various Grants continue to be applied for and the streetscape on Ardmore is near completion. Ten businesses have taken advantage of the Facade Program and the improvements have been noticed.

Currently there is some major construction on North Avenue; North Park Plaza new outbuilding and the Event Center for Wildfire Harley Davidson along with their current building improvements.

A Village Dedication Ceremony is planned for Cortesi Park on May 30<sup>th</sup> with a Program from the VFW Post 2801 to follow.

All are welcome to come and celebrate Arbor Day Tree Planting by the Historical Museum hosted by ComEd, DuPage County and the Environmental Concerns Commission.

Many events are scheduled for the coming months; French Market, Summerfest, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Kiwanis Wednesdays Concerts, Music in the Park on Thursdays during August and also Movies in the Park to name a few.

Various Departments have many projects in the works; Parks & Rec have adopted a Master Plan, Ball Field updates, Library has a Building Improvement Project. A childcare facility is

opening in Ovaltine in the near future, along with many economic development projects in the beginning stages.

Unfortunately the Grand Prix Bike Race will no longer be held in town.

The committee discussed future Corridor Meetings and it was agreed to have one meeting a year unless main specific topics apply to an area.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Calvert stated he noticed more sold signs and a different generation is moving in and also expressed a need for senior housing. Old schools or churches not in use could be converted.

Commissioner Rosasco brought the subject matter to the wall by A.K. Mulch which would look good painted with a mural. Try and get local artists to submit drawings or hold a contest. The wall could be divided sections for a variety of artwork.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Dave Casey and seconded by Commissioner Ben Gulino. The motion passed with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pat Boksha