

**Economic & Commercial Commission Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2012**

Members Present

Marty Ward, Chairman
Jerry Meyer
David Spedale
Dennis Reidy
Chris Shoemaker
Rebecca Palumbo
Brian Godlewski
Curt Fiedler
Kevin Suggs
Chris Verstrate

Members Not Present

James Mohler
Michael Leonard
Mohammed Nofal
Jay Walsh
Kathy Mahoney

Also Present

David Seaman, Liaison Trustee

Staff Present

Ivan Baker, Economic Development Director
Nancy Byrne, Commission Secretary

Chairman Ward called the July 11, 2012 Economic & Commercial Commission meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. There was a motion made by Rebecca Palumbo, seconded by David Spedale, to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2012 ECC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Curt Fiedler, seconded by Brian Godlewski, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as written. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried.

Chairman Report – Chairman Ward reminded the commissioners about the Tinley Park concerts, Cruise Nights, Benches on the Avenue and Block Party as well as the Park District concert on Thursday night.

Commissioner Reports –

Real Estate Report – Dennis Reidy reported that the current economy has created interest in industrial manufacturing businesses, and their group discussed the availabilities in the area. They also talked about the vacant area on LaGrange Road and 191st and Harlem. There is a shortage of locations for manufacturing uses. They discussed the parcel south of I-80 on the east side of the street and noted that it has some issues, mainly that it is located in Rich Township and Cook County. They questioned whether the focus should be changed from retail to light manufacturing. The property consists of 114 acres and is not annexed at this time.

Dennis indicated that developers have been requesting that some industrial/manufacturing properties be turned into recreational facilities (dance studios, etc.). He noted that the ECC decided long ago not to allow this use in these areas. Ivan stated that the zoning will not allow dance studios in this area. Trustee Seaman noted that if it is not a sustainable rental, then we would not consider waiving this and allowing a variance. Ivan indicated that a Boot Camp has subleased a space in this area but did not apply for a permit and that they will have to relocate.

Dennis reported that the Park District is adding on to the Bettenhausen Recreation Center and that they want to sell the Duvan property. If they cannot sell it, the Park District would use the property to maintain their vehicles after they tear down the building and rebuild. Trustee Seaman stated that the Village has already talked to the Park District. We would like to see it used for something that would be on the tax rolls.

Marketing Report – Rebecca Palumbo reported that they met and discussed a LinkedIn group but decided it is not feasible because of the need to oversee the site. It was decided instead to do an email newsletter to all of our businesses where we can communicate about the Business Breakfast, seminars, etc. Since this is more Business Retention than Marketing, Rebecca contacted Chris Shoemaker about getting this up and running. They will discuss pursuing the windows project at their next meeting. She will get contacts from Joanne with the intention to install the artwork in January. Trustee Seaman suggested that the Chamber of Commerce could also be a resource.

Business Retention – Chris Verstrate stated that they had talked about the Motivate Speaker Program and that we are in need of speakers for 20-25 classes per semester. Ivan asked the commissioners to consider signing up to be a speaker. Marty asked that they let Ivan know as soon as possible if they can speak during the first round in October.

Chris also reported that they discussed businesses applying for a business license and the need to get in contact with them right away to start the retention process.

Finance Report – Dave Spedale stated that they did not meet in July but plan to meet August 7th. At their last meeting, they discussed the bankers function and the South Street project. Ivan stated that a guide will be put together. It will take place in October or early November and we will invite the commercial loan officers for a breakfast or lunch.

Trustee Report – Trustee Dave Seaman reported on the proposed vendor for the 80th Avenue Train Station. He updated the group on the South Street project. He noted that LaGrange Road will be expanded to three lanes in each direction from 131st to 179th Street, but the project has been delayed until March.

Staff Report – Ivan presented a report on existing projects and activities.

There was a motion made by Rebecca Palumbo, seconded by Curt Fiedler, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

<p style="text-align:center"><i>Reminder</i> <i>Next ECC Meeting</i> <i>August 8, 2012</i> <i>6:30 p.m.</i> <i>Kallsen Conference Center</i></p>

Upcoming Events:

- *Real Estate Group – Wed., August 22nd – 6:45 a.m., Egg & I*
- *Marketing Group – Tues., August 28th – 8:00 a.m., Crossmark*
- *Business Retention – Tues., August 28th – 7:30 a.m. Eggheadz Café*
- *Finance Group – Tues., Sept. 4th – 6:30 p.m., Kallsen Conf. Center*
- *Chamber of Commerce Mtg. – Thurs., Aug. 30th – 8:15 a.m., Odyssey Country Club*