

**Economic & Commercial Commission Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2011**

Members Present

Frank Kurzawa, Chairman
Dick Post, Vice Chairman
Jerry Meyer
Marty Ward
David Spedale
Chris Shoemaker
Rebecca Palumbo
Brian Hunter
Jay Walsh
Brian Godlewski

Members Not Present

James Mohler
Michael Leonard
Dennis Reidy
Mohammed Nofal

Staff Present

Ivan Baker, Economic Development Director
Nancy Byrne, Secretary

Also Present

Tammy Shoemaker, Chamber Rep.

Chairman Kurzawa called the July 13, 2011 Economic & Commercial Commission meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. There was a motion made by Rebecca Palumbo, seconded by Dick Post, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2011 ECC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Kurzawa declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Chris Shoemaker, seconded by Brian Hunter, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting as written. Vote by voice call: Chairman Kurzawa declared the motion carried.

Chair Report – Chairman Kurzawa welcomed Tammy Shoemaker who is the vice president of the Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce. Bob Haustein is the president until December, 2012 at which time Tammy will take over as President. Tammy will be attending the ECC meetings as the Chamber representative.

Frank asked Ivan to talk about ECC attendance and meeting scheduling. Ivan noted that attendance has been low at the ECC meetings and that we have not had a quorum at four meetings this year. In addition, only ten commissioners attended the ECC Sponsored Annual Business Breakfast this year. Ivan and the members discussed whether changing the meeting day or time would increase attendance, but decided to keep the schedule as is. Ivan said that staff will do everything possible to adjust schedules and find meeting times that will accommodate the commissioners.

Commissioner Reports –

Marketing Report – Rebecca reported that the storefront project is wrapping up. She noted that Inland was very happy with the project. Rebecca indicated that if the project is done again, they will have tighter guidelines. Vacancy rates should be reviewed in August to determine whether or not to repeat the project this school year.

Frank mentioned that WGN has been advertising Tinley Park on their radio program. Marty suggested using Gary Myer (a Tinley Park native) at one of the Cruise Nights. Ivan stated that he will pull together the numbers.

Real Estate Report – Ivan reported that Innovative Impact has a contract in place for the vacant H.B. Fuller building. We are vying against Indiana who is providing a major incentive package. Company is asking for a grant to offset moving expenses. It was suggested that we provide the grant based on hiring only local Tinley Park people. Grants have been provided to Avantile and UGN in the past. Ivan noted that the two story house has been demolished and the Ice House will be demolished within a couple of weeks. He also discussed the Cardinal Fitness property. He indicated that the Legacy Code approval should be late in July. The Board is requesting more special use options (rather than prohibitions) under the new Legacy Code. Ivan discussed options in regard to Class 8 and Class 2 downtown...focusing on development in the core.

Will County CED – Ivan indicated that the Will County CED is 20% funded by Government and 80% funded by private funds. He asked if the commission would like to have a more active role with the CED. He emphasized the role of schools in workforce development and finding ways to incorporate this into Tinley Park. Regarding transportation issues, the 80th Avenue bridge widening should be prioritized, as well as the fact that there no public sidewalks or bike paths to our major public facilities. Ivan indicated that there may be opportunities for the commission to be involved in these and other issues over the next six to nine months. The members expressed an interest in becoming involved in these issues.

Staff Report – Ivan Baker presented a staff report on current projects.

There was a motion made by Brian Hunter, seconded by Jay Walsh, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Kurzawa declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

***Reminder
Next ECC Meeting
August 10, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Kallsen Conference Center***

Upcoming Events:

- OPAMA Meeting – Thurs., August 11th – 8:00 a.m. – VFW Hall
- Chamber of Commerce Mtg.- Thurs., Aug. 25th – 8:15 a.m.-Odyssey Country Club
- Benches on the Avenue “America the Beautiful” – May 13th – Oct. 1st
- Farmers Market – Sat., June 4th – Sept. 24th, 7 a.m.-noon
- Cruise Nights on Oak Park Ave. – Tuesdays June 7th – Aug. 30th – 5-9 p.m.
- Music in the Plaza – Sat., August 6th – 7-10 p.m.
- Movies in the Plaza – Sat., August 13th @ dusk