

**Economic & Commercial Commission Meeting Minutes  
November 12, 2014**

**Members Present**

Marty Ward, Chairman  
James Mohler  
David Spedale  
Mohammed Nofal  
Chris Shoemaker  
Rebecca Palumbo  
Jay Walsh  
Curt Fiedler  
Robert Workman

**Members Not Present**

Dennis Reidy  
Chris Verstrate  
Antonio Rubino  
Kathy Mahoney  
Kevin Suggs

**Staff Present**

Ivan Baker, Economic Development Director

Chairman Ward called the November 12, 2014 Economic & Commercial Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There was a motion made by Mohammed Nofal, seconded by Jim Mohler, to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2014 ECC meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried.

There was a motion made by Mohammed Nofal, seconded by Dave Spedale, to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried.

**Chairman Report** – Chairman Ward began a discussion on meeting time. There was discussion about having a morning meeting, possibly at 7 a.m. Two of the commissioners thought that this might be a time to do only occasionally. Most of the commissioners said that it could work. No decision was made.

**Discussion Group Updates** –

***Marketing Group*** – Rebecca reported that they decided not to do the web-based survey, and instead to focus on some more personal meetings – either individual or small group meetings.

***Real Estate*** – No report.

***Finance*** – Jim Mohler discussed potential amendments for the Cook County Class Program. ECC Finance is still reviewing. No action taken.

***Business Retention*** – Chris Shoemaker led a discussion about improving our Shop Local effort including possibly having a sales tax holiday as an incentive. The commission recommended a lot more research into ideas and potential costs.

**Staff Report** – There was a discussion about the First Phase Redevelopment Plan from Farr Associates relating to the Mental Health Center redevelopment. Phase One is about determining a vision. Phase Two would start to design the potential redevelopment, and Phase Three would

actually take a design to developers. This is a process that will take six to 18 months after purchase. There was also a discussion on how we can assist in helping some of the small businesses improve their marketing strategies, including a social media checklist working with the MainStreet Commission and others to help find ways to improve marketing. Ivan gave a project update and mentioned that the Lincolnway School District is going to have a bid opening on December 5<sup>th</sup> on the Lincolnway property.

There was a motion made by Rebecca Palumbo, seconded by Chris Shoemaker, to adjourn the meeting. Vote by voice call: Chairman Ward declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

***Reminder  
Next ECC Meeting  
January 14, 2015  
6:30 p.m.  
Fulton Conference Room***