

Village of Germantown Hills
Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2016 - 5:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**-Marty Clinch called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDC Committee	Roll Call	1	2	3	4	5
Jeff DeGroot-Village President	Absent	-	-	-	-	
Marty Clinch-Chairman	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Amy Pace	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Paul Herzog	Absent	-	-	-	-	
John Taylor	Absent	-	-	-	-	
Bob Sutton	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Eric McAllister	Absent	-	Y	Y	Y	
Amy DeFreitas	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Melissa Heil	Present	Y	-	-	-	
Veronica Axelson	Absent	-	-	-	-	
Ann Sasso-Director	Present	Y	Y	Y	Y	

Also in attendance:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works Julia Miller, Village Trustee
 Todd Rice, Village Trustee Mike Hinrichsen, Woodford County Board Member

2. Approval of the January 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Melissa Heil to approve the January 14, 2016 EDC minutes. The motion was seconded by Amy DeFreitas. **Motion passed #1.**

3. EDC Chairman/Director Reports

Ann Sasso reported she had been asked to be on the CEDS strategy team. The group will meet every other month to work on the plan and is presently working on parts of the strategy. Mike Hinrichsen also serves on the committee explained some of what the team is working on.

Ann reported she had received notice from the Tri-County Planning Commission the Village had received the RTP grant for the J.R. White Park Trail in the amount of \$80,000 for a bike/walk trail. Ann noted she will check with the IDNR on what the next steps are and a timeline for the project.

Ann explained when the dumpster enclosure ordinance was instituted the Village sent out notices to all commercial property owners with dumpsters. The Village inadvertently didn't realize Cat Trail had a dumpster so we just recently notified them of the requirement.

4. Enterprise Zone Update

Ann reported the enterprise zone was certified and is in effect as of January 1, 2016. The enterprise zone Ordinance will be adopted at the next Village board meeting to be included in the Village code.

Ann explained there are some potential projects in the works and a new subdivision is being proposed to be annexed into the Village with approximately 47 lots.

5. School Expansion and Building Updates

Doug Herring and Randy Nash were in attendance to discuss the MTHS proposed building expansion project.

Eric McAllister arrived at 5:32 p.m.

6. Illinois Prairie District Public Library Update-Defer

7. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update-Defer

8. Road Infrastructure Update-Defer

9. Discussion and Recommendation to the Village Board on a Façade Improvement Program and application process

In January the EDC had recommended approval of the façade improvement program and application process to the Village board. The Village board had asked for more criteria on the selection of projects and timing of the grant process to be included in the program summary. The EDC discussed the application and proposed façade grant program. Cassandra Schlatter had investigated other communities and their processes in order to put together some criteria for project selection and a time line for the grant process. A combination of these were added to the program for consideration and discussion.

The committee discussed and felt there shouldn't be criteria and timing and discussed the reasons why. They felt it was better to do it on a first come first serve basis and the number of projects would be determined by funds available in the Village budget. Some additional suggested language changes and a modification of an eligible and ineligible project were made to the program summary for a recommendation to the Village board.

Melissa Heil left at 6:15 p.m.

The committee also discussed and recommended renaming the façade grant to the Business Community Improvement Project Grant in order to encompass all visual aspects of a business's property.

A motion was made by Eric McAllister to recommend to the Village board the Business Community Improvement Grant program and application process. The motion was seconded by Amy DeFreitas. **Motion passed #2.**

Illinois Prairie District Public Library Update

The Library had a bid opening and the bids came in about what the architects expected. They are now in the process of examining the bids in preparation for making a recommendation to the library board. The library board will consider this at a special meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 16 and barring any serious questions or reservations, the library board should award the contract.

Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update

Ann Sasso reported the Chamber is working on putting welcome packets together for new residents moving into the community. Any business that wants to contribute an item to the welcome packets should get them to the Chamber. Bob Sutton noted the Chamber will utilize the Water Company's list of new users in order to encompass a larger area for the distribution of the welcome packets to new residents.

Road Infrastructure Update-Rich Brecklin reported they are waiting on the weather to break in order to get started on the Anker Lane Road extension project.

10. Discussion and recommendation to the Village Board on the Germantown Crossing pylon sign

Ann Sasso explained Justin Nena, owner of Nena Hardware had sent a letter to the Village concerning the new Germantown Crossing pylon sign. He has reached out to all of the property owners to gauge interest to see who would like a space on the new sign. He has received good responses from the property owners. There is a portion of the sign identifying the shopping center that he has asked if the Village has interest in contributing towards the cost. The committee discussed the economic and community impact with the identification of Germantown Crossing shopping center. The EDC noted the need to have Germantown Crossing on the sign for business and community awareness and because of the number of businesses this sign impacts.

Because the grant program has taken a little longer than expected it was recommended the first grant be awarded to the shopping center pylon sign this fiscal year and that as of May 1st it will be determined how much money will be available for the new fiscal year for additional grant funding.

A motion was made by Bob Sutton to recommend to the Village Board the Germantown Crossing pylon sign be the first recipient of the Business Community Improvement Grant. The motion was seconded by Eric McAllister. **Motion passed #3.**

11. Business Round Table Updates/Public Comments-Eric McAllister stated the Germantown Hills School District will be opening bids on the Middles School expansion on February 25th.

12. Next Meeting- March 10, 2016 5:00 p.m.-The next EDC meeting will be held at the Village hall at 5:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment-A motion was made by Amy Pace to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Amy DeFreitas. **Motion passed #4.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk