

Village of Germantown Hills
Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2015 - 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			
John Ford	Present	Y	Y			
Paul Herzog	Present	Y	Y			
John Taylor	Absent	-	-			
Bob Sutton	Present	Y	-			
Eric McAllister	Absent	Y	Y			
Amy DeFreitas	Present	Y	Y			
Melissa Heil	Present	Y	Y			
Ann Sasso-Director	Present	Y	Y			
Vacant						

Also in attendance:

- Mike Hinrichsen, Woodford County Board Member
- Jim O'Laughlin, Village Trustee
- Julia Miller, Village Trustee
- Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works
- Dan Mair, Superintendent, Germantown Hills School District
- Veronica Axelson, Germantown Hills Chamber President
- Steve Nauman, Germantown Hills School Board President
- Chris Tyra, GHAA Board Member
- Grant Fredericksen, Illinois Prairie Public Library Director

2. Minutes Approval-January 8, 2015

A motion was made by Amy DeFreitas to approve the January 8, 2015 EDC minutes. The motion was seconded by John Ford. **Motion passed #1.**

3. Greater Peoria Economic Development Council Update

Marty Clinch explained the FFCl and EDC groups have merged to become the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council. Jennifer Daly the new CEO will be at the March EDC meeting to share what is going on with the organization and regional economic development. Marty noted this group is a great resource of knowledge and experience for Germantown Hills.

Eric McAllister arrived at 5:03 p.m.

4. Discussion and Recommendation to the Village Board on the submittal of a grant Request to the Allstate Agency Hands in the Community Grant Program for Economic Development for the Village of Germantown Hills

Ann Sasso explained that Allstate has a grant opportunity that the Village might be able to apply for. Scott Leas, an Allstate agent is on the Chamber and if the Village applies for a grant to be used in cooperation between the Chamber and EDC this should meet the requirements. The group discussed some potential projects that the Chamber and EDC could work together on including community banners, a map for the businesses or newsletter. The Village Board will need to approve the submittal of a grant request.

5. Discussion and Recommendation to the Village Board on the MTCO Park Development Plan

Dan Mair, Superintendent, along with Steve Nauman, GH Board President and Chris Tyra, GHAA board member were in attendance to discuss the MTCO Park Development Plan. In January several individuals met to define the next steps needed in order to get the MTCO Park developed. Chris discussed the costs of the proposed plan which have been divided into five phases with the hope that there are some donations to help offset the project costs.

Dan Mair discussed the potential financing plan, EAV and tax rate for the school district. They are looking at including the development of the park with the school's construction plans which would allow the school district to have the funds without raising taxes. He noted one of the purposes tonight was to get feedback from many leaders of the community since this project is going to be a benefit to the community and the economic development of our area. This facility will draw a consistent amount of the people into our community and will add to the area's quality of life.

It was discussed that the pedestrian overpass not be included in the project at this time but felt it would be a separate project to work on down the road with grants and funding opportunities. The addition of a sidewalk from Arbor Vitae to the park would be a more feasible project to include at this time for access to the park.

Dan noted there will need to be more discussion on maintenance of the park for the years to come. GHAA has grown enough to be able to put some money aside each year towards maintenance costs. Mike Hinrichsen noted there are resources of some area people that should be able to assist in donating their time and labor to the project.

Bob Sutton left at 5:37 p.m.

Julia Miller indicated to make sure it is clear to the community that the dollars being spent on the park would be earmarked only for those expenditures so that people understand money spent on this project won't affect other school needs. The marketing would need to be clear that education funding and building funds come from separate sources.

Dan Mair stated the sewer and water to the property is an area that needs to be discussed.

The EDC discussed the fact that the school has the resources to get this built whereas GHAA and the Village do not. Dan stated if the school is able to come up with funding for this project it would be built all at once and not in phases.

6. EDC Chairman/Director Reports

Ann Sasso reported on the status of the commercial vacancies in the Germantown Crossing shopping center. Both Casey's and Nena Ace have closed on their properties. We do not have a defined time line on their construction or openings at this time.

Rich Brecklin reported the field surveys on the road construction projects have been completed with a preliminary design plan that he will be sharing with the street committee on Tuesday.

Ann Sasso noted the Village is getting some money back on the flag lighting from the energy grant and we are applying for a trails grant for J.R. White Park.

7. Illinois Prairie District Public Library Update

Grant Fredericksen explained at their last meeting the architect had reported back on what it would take to bring the old Ace building up to library standards. The library board is having a special meeting on February 17th at 4:00 p.m. in Metamora to discuss a possible scaled down version of the library building plan to be built on the property the library district owns along Woodland Knolls Road. They are also going to discuss funding opportunities.

8. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update

Veronica Axelson reported the Chamber is having their breakfast meeting at Germantown Grille on February 19th at 8:00 a.m.

There will be fundraising benefit on March 11th at the Monte Cristo Room to raise money for Arnie Edwards. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at Heartland Bank or Hillside Kleaners.

The annual pork chop event is on May 9th. The Chamber has a new website they are working on and are looking at sending out magnets with the Chamber member information on them.

9. Road Infrastructure Update-This was already discussed.

10. Business Round Table Updates/Public Comments-Nothing new to report.

11. Next Meeting- March 12, 2015 5:00 p.m.-The next EDC meeting will be held at the Village hall at 5:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Paul Herzog to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m. The motion was seconded by John Ford. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk