

Village of Germantown Hills
Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

April 14, 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			
Amy Pace	Present	Y	Y			
Paul Herzog	Present	Y	Y			
Bob Sutton	Absent	-	-			
Eric McAllister	Absent	-	-			
Amy DeFreitas	Absent	-	-			
Melissa Heil	Present	Y	Y			
Veronica Axelson	Absent	-	-			
Kendall Stevens	Present	Y	Y			
Ann Sasso-Director	Present	Y	Y			

Also in attendance:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works
 Mike Hinrichsen & Barry Logan, Woodford County Board Members
 Jim O'Laughlin, Village Trustee
 Todd Rice, Village Trustee
 Julia Miller, Village Trustee

2. Approval of the March 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Amy Pace to approve the March 10, 2016 EDC minutes. The motion was seconded by Kendall Stevens. **Motion passed #1.**

3. Update on the Greater Peoria EDC and introduction of the new Rural Development Coordinator for GPEDC-Jennifer Daly & Brittany Brown

Jennifer Daly, CEO for the Greater Peoria Economic Development Council was in attendance to give an update and introduce the new Rural Development Coordinator, Brittany Brown. Jennifer explained the GPEDC wanted to bring someone on to help the smaller communities and create a bigger support system.

Brittany Brown stated she was excited about the new position and the opportunity to take what she has already learned to help communities similar to where she grew up. She gave some history about herself in terms of her education and prior work experience. She has earmarked

about twenty communities to concentrate on with varying levels of assistance that will be needed.

Jennifer Daly noted they will be having an annual GP meet up on May 5th. This will be a fun opportunity to give some updates. GPEDC has launched a new site called LiveGP that highlights the investment communities. They are also putting together a First Friends program in order to match up new residents to the region with someone from that community to familiarize them in order to get connected and oriented.

4. EDC Chairman/Director Reports

Ann Sasso updated the committee on some Village happenings. She reported GHAA has approved an easement for the Village welcome sign and the Township has approved the sign at the other end of the Village.

The Village is working on a Holland Road sidewalk from J.R. White Park to the daycare

The information packets on the grant, EZ and lighting ordinance information went out to all of the businesses.

Ann attended the ICSC Central Illinois Luncheon and learned a lot about retail markets and some potential opportunities.

Ann discussed the Germantown Crossing pylon sign and that they are going to need to request two variances for the sign they are proposing. One variance is for the overall size and the other is for the LED size of sign. The committee was supportive of the sign and size. Melissa Heil noted a safety concern over the size of the LED sign in terms of the close location to Route 116.

5. School expansion & building updates

Paul Herzog questioned if there are going to be traffic concerns at the Middle School with the addition of the K-2 children. The committee discussed. Melissa Heil stated Dan Mair had indicated that event parking wouldn't be impacted by the addition at the junior high since most junior high events don't overlap with events that affect elementary grades, and vice versa.

Melissa Heil reported the High School was going to be meeting to discuss options on the building expansion and what the next step might be.

6. Illinois Prairie District Public Library update

Ann Sasso reported on the update on the library. The excavation company was able to get a good start on the foundation. The furnishings committee is currently in the process of selecting furniture styles and colors. They will finish their work by the end of May. The staff is busy compiling an "Opening Day" collection for the new building. The projected completion date is December 1.

7. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce update

Ann Sasso reported the welcome bags have been put together and distributed. The annual pork chop and vendor event is on May 7th.

8. Road infrastructure update

Rich Brecklin reported Anker Lane will start up again weather permitting.

9. Discuss future community goals

Ann Sasso noted the need to think about what the committee should have as a new goal. Several things have been accomplished or are in the works so it is time to think about what's next. Ann suggested looking through the comprehensive plan for goals that need to be addressed. Melissa Heil recommended and the committee agreed to come back to the next meeting with three ideas to put on the table for discussion and consideration.

Ann asked if we need to look at a different day or time in order to get more people at the meetings. She asked for committee members to give more notice when they are unable to attend the meeting.

10. Business round table updates/public comments

Mike Hinrichsen reported to the board that the Wecare van service is no longer eligible for the grant due to the Germantown Hills census numbers.

Mike Hinrichsen indicated he had attended the Roanoke EDC meeting and they are moving forward. They have a former resident that is willing to donate money to a community center. Mike noted there is also going to be a meeting on July 11 for businesses to express concerns of what they need to the Woodford County Finance and Economic Development Committee.

Mike Hinrichsen thanked the Village for their continued commitment which is critical to the community.

11. Next Meeting- May 12, 2016 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 Melissa Heil to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kendall Stevens. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso
Village Clerk