

**Village of Germantown Hills  
216 Holland Road, Village Hall  
Germantown Hills, IL 61548  
[www.germantownhillsillinois.org](http://www.germantownhillsillinois.org)**

**Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes**

**December 11, 2014 - 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

| <b>EDC Committee</b>           | <b>Roll Call</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>5</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Jeff DeGroot-Village President | Absent           | -        | -        |          |          |          |
| Marty Clinch-Chairman          | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| John Ford                      | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Paul Herzog                    | Present          | Y        | -        |          |          |          |
| John Taylor                    | Absent           | -        | -        |          |          |          |
| Bob Sutton                     | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Eric McAllister                | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Amy DeFreitas                  | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Tammy Heiden                   | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Melissa Heil                   | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |
| Ann Sasso-Director             | Present          | Y        | Y        |          |          |          |

Also in attendance:

- Don Creemens, Woodford County Board Member
- Jim O'Laughlin, Village Trustee
- Brian Wysocki, Village Trustee
- Julia Miller, Village Trustee
- Todd Rice, Village Trustee
- Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works
- Veronica Axelson, President, Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce
- Arnie Edwards, Owner, Hillside Kleaners

**2. Welcome & Introductions**

Marty Clinch welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**3. Minutes Approval-November 13, 2014**

**A motion** was made by Paul Herzog to approve the November 13, 2014 EDC minutes. The motion was seconded by Eric McAllister. **Motion passed #1.**

#### **4. EDC Chairman/Director Reports**

Ann Sasso reported we are putting the last parts of the application together on the enterprise zone and are going Wednesday to Springfield to deliver the application. We are having continued interest in the commercial vacancies in Germantown Crossing. The Casey's site plan was approved by the engineer and the building permit was issued.

The Village sponsored the Chamber lunch in November.

#### **5. Illinois Prairie District Public Library Update**

Grant Fredericksen reported the library board has authorized him to sign the agreement for the architect to proceed with looking at the possibilities of the old Ace building for a new Germantown Hills library. The EDC was encouraged by the news and would also like to see someone from Germantown Hills to run for the library board vacancy.

Don Creemens presented some drawings he had put together to get the library building concept to fit on the Ace property. Marty Clinch noted a statement was made that the community wants a 10,000 square foot building. Marty noted he thinks the community wants a bigger building than we presently have but they want to see it happen now and not years down the road.

Don Creemens checked with the county and Worth Township is bringing in over \$506,000 to the library district which is 48% of their budget. The timing is crucial to move forward on the available building. Some of the EDC members didn't think the community would support a tax increase when a majority of our tax dollars are already going to the library district and when it appears very little is being done for Germantown Hills. Melissa Heil stated she felt the EDC should support whatever the library district decides to do. Veronica Axelson stated she wouldn't support a tax increase when over \$500,000 is helping to support all of the other branches and this process would also take another 5 years before Germantown Hills would see a library.

Marty Clinch stated he has looked at the possibility of the Ace building and thinks it is doable. Don Creemens noted with his construction background that he feels it can be done. The committee stated they appreciated Grant sharing the information and we are excited to move forward with this opportunity.

#### **6. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update**

Veronica Axelson shared information on the upcoming January business social event in Metamora. She stated they are planning on inviting all of the businesses to the Chamber meeting in January to tell the community what the Chamber is doing and what they have to offer.

The Village and Chamber will be looking at doing community street pole banners in the spring. They are also looking at ways to make the Chamber meetings more beneficial such as business and marketing strategies to help all businesses. This next year they will continue to do their pork chop cookout and the Mayor's Prayer breakfast.

Todd Rice mentioned the possibility of getting involved in the Real Peoria site on Facebook since it seems to be a good marketing strategy for area businesses.

Arnie Edwards updated the committee on the upcoming fund raisers to help benefit Arnie and his wife Laura as he continues his medical treatments. The next one is the chicken dinner on December 16th and an event in January as well.

## **7. Road Infrastructure Update**

The street and finance committee have recommended moving forward on the right in/right out connection off of Route 116 to Anker Lane and the roundabout at Jubilee Lane, Holland Road and Woodland Knolls Road. The Village is proposing a June construction date. The improvements were discussed.

The Village received the Safe Routes to School grant to complete the sidewalk from Windsor Drive to Wildflower Avenue.

## **8. Business Round Table Updates/Public Comments**

Paul Herzog left at 5:40 p.m.

The EDC discussed the commercial and sidewalk developments. Melissa Heil asked if another newsletter would be sent out to Village residents. The committee agreed to look at doing another one in March to update the community on what is happening.

## **9. Next Meeting- January 8, 2015 5:00 p.m.**

The next EDC meeting will be held at the Village hall at 5:00 p.m.

## **10. Adjournment**

**A motion** was made by Amy DeFreitas to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m. The motion was seconded by Melissa Heil. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk