

Village of Germantown Hills

Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2020 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 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mike Hinrichsen-Village President | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Marty Clinch-Chairman | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Stephanie Chaon | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Paul Herzog | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Bob Sutton | Absent | - | - | | | |
| Dan Mair | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Nathan Henricks | Absent | - | - | | | |
| Melissa Heil | Absent | - | - | | | |
| Veronica Axelson | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Randy Nash | Present | Y | Y | | | |
| Ann Sasso-Director | Present | Y | Y | | | |

Also, present:

Jim O’Laughlin, Village Trustee

Julia Miller, Village Trustee

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

2. **Approval of the October 17, 2019 EDC meeting minutes**

A motion was made by Randy Nash to approve the October 17, 2019 EDC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Stephanie Chaon. **Motion passed #1.**

3. **Discussion and update on the Germantown Crossing Vision**

Mike Hinrichsen explained that last time this was discussed he outlined what was going to be done to the old ATM lot with the Weaver grant. The work hasn’t been completed due to the weather but the improvements will include park benches, flag lights and poles, trees, concrete and brick pavers.

Rich Brecklin noted he is waiting on the weather so that the contractor can pour the concrete, install brick pavers and put in the electrical. The work has to be done by June 30th to comply with the grant.

Metamora-Germantown Hills Rotary received a grant for \$2,000 that will go towards two evergreens and a rotary sign at the welcome lot location.

Mike Hinrichsen discussed phase 2, which involves triangle park (the area in front of First Build building) off of Jubilee Lane. It hasn't been determined yet what will go in this area but a rough estimate previously done was for \$100,000 to develop it, which could include a memorial park, sidewalks and benches. Other items of consideration are a walking path from the library to triangle park, new signage at the corner in front of Ricky's gas station and landscaping at the corner by State Farm. Mike explained another question to consider would be if the village would support any effort in regards to the parking lot improvements.

Ann Sasso noted the need to wait on the parking lot to discussion to see if the present owner does anything to the parking lot since it is private property.

Rich Brecklin also indicated the need to make sure stormwater issues are addressed with the parking lot.

In addition, it has been determined Business District Funds can be used for sidewalk construction in and around the Germantown Crossing shopping center. A sidewalk in front of Greg Harman's State Farm office is another project to consider as many people cross Rt. 116 in this location.

Mike Hinrichsen stated the comprehensive plan identifies the need to make Germantown Crossing a more attractive area to do business and making the improvements would demonstrate to CEFCU that we are executing the plan.

The committee discussed the different options.

4. Discussion and recommendation to the Village Board on utilizing the Business District funds

The committee discussed whether or not to do the sidewalk in front of State Farm, a sidewalk or walkway behind Paul Herzog's building or the development of triangle park (area in front of the First Build building). It was also discussed whether general funds or business district funds should be used for the projects. The committee agreed to take the sidewalk questions to the street committee for a recommendation and the design questions for the triangle park to the park committee for a recommendation.

5. EDC Chairman/Director/Village President Reports

Marty Clinch noted the IEDC has some webinars coming up that may be of interest to the committee.

Ann Sasso stated she had met with a representative from Cullinan on their vacant property and shared some of the conceptual drawings of Germantown Crossing. They discussed some ideas that have been discussed in the past on needed types of businesses in the community. The removal of the trees was also discussed but a vegetation control permit will be needed from IDNR. Marty Clinch recommended getting a group together to discuss what can be done in order to get some of the trees removed.

The Michael's Run for Life is scheduled for July 25, 2020.

Mike Hinrichsen noted the Peoria Chamber President Jeff Griffin has resigned and the GPEDC has agreed to have Chris Setti serve as interim Chamber President for 3-4 months until they find someone to fill the position.

6. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce update

Veronica Axelson stated the Chamber breakfast is next Thursday at Kouri's and the Spring Fling is schedule for May 2nd.

7. School Updates and Upcoming Events

Dan Mair noted both girls' basketball teams went to state and on February 1st they held their meeting on the school's strategic plan. It was the most successful event where the board recognized the need to invest in the MTCO Park. Dan noted they will put together a formal fundraising plan and then a decision will need to be made on how to move forward.

The State of the District dinner is on March 12th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss new goals and objectives. The school held their first reunification drill meeting with the actual drill to be held on October 2nd. This is a drill in the event the school has to be evacuated.

Dan Mair noted the solar project is on hold due to some structural issues.

8. Germantown Hills Library Update-No update.

9. Business Round Table Updates

Randy Nash stated the fire department is getting bids on a new parking lot, air packs and the ambulance contract.

Veronica Axelson asked about the possibility in checking to see what it would take to get a newer Dollar General as the one on Rt. 26 is really nice. Ann Sasso will check with GPEDC on their Dollar General contact.

10. Next meeting – March 12, 2020 5:00 p.m. March 12th is the next meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the village hall.

11. Adjournment-A motion was made by Marty Clinch to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. The motion was seconded by Paul Herzog. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk