

# Village of Germantown Hills Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

**November 9, 2017 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			
Amy Pace	Present	Y	Y			
Paul Herzog	Present	Y	-			
Bob Sutton	Present	Y	Y			
Eric McAllister	Present	Y	Y			
Amy DeFreitas	Present	Y	-			
Melissa Heil	Present	Y	Y			
Veronica Axelson	Absent	-	-			
Randy Nash	Present	Y	Y			
Ann Sasso-Director	Present	Y	Y			

Also, present:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works  
 Roy Bockler, Woodford County Economic Development Coordinator  
 Russ Cotton, Woodford County Board Member  
 Barry Logan, Woodford County Board Member  
 Zack and Jacquie Taylor

- 2. Approval of the October 12, 2017 EDC meeting minutes-**A motion was made by Bob Sutton to approve the October 12, 2017 EDC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Amy DeFreitas. **Motion passed #1.**
- 3. Village background on Germantown Hills EDC, longevity, membership, deliverables and direction.**

Marty Clinch gave the history on the Germantown Hills EDC. He noted the committee was formed in 2013 because the Village Board felt it needed to be more active than it had been. The committee was put together to involve other groups in the community, including representatives from the School, Businesses, Water Board, residents and others with connections within the community. The Village partnered with the Tri-County Planning Commission to update the Comprehensive Plan. Germantown Hills has worked with other regional partners including help from the GPEDC in order to get Germantown Hills on the map. Germantown Hills is trying to do some things and fast forward today and here we are with Mike's vision for a Village Square and Ann Sasso being active with GPEDC and the Technical Working Group to get our name out there.

Mike Hinrichsen explained some of the deliverables Germantown Hills has received since the creation of the EDC and working with regional partners. They include: being a part of the enterprise zone, Ann Sasso's involvement with TWG and building a network along with the commitment from the Village for her time to fill this role, putting together the Business Community Improvement Grant Program, and the Village receiving over \$650,000 grants. In addition, without the EDC's involvement we might not have had the library we now have along with the \$750,000 the Village has invested in constructing Anker Lane, which is a commitment to growing Germantown Crossing. Mike noted the vision is the next step in creating a community place.

**4. Introduction to Roy Bockler, Woodford County Economic Development Coordinator. Woodford County plan to provide economic development to municipalities. Charter, work to date, communities, and gain a better understanding of action plan by county.**

Roy Bockler, Woodford County Economic Development Coordinator noted he is from Germantown Hills and thanked Mike for inviting him to attend the EDC meeting. Russ Cotton, Chairman of the Finance and Economic Development Committee was also in attendance.

Roy Bockler explained his past experiences. He noted he would like to visit all of the community boards within the County and noted Woodford County hasn't been promoted but feels it has great opportunities and assets.

Bob Sutton indicated the need to have better communication with the rural parts of the County.

Roy noted it is his personal objective to bring everyone together to make things happen.

**5. Review of Village Vision, action to date and next steps.**

Mike Hinrichsen noted the Village is doing this vision in order to move us from a collection of great neighborhoods to a community where we can grow. Mike shared the vision and reviewed the key investments the Village has made. He noted these assets will be connected in order to create a village square.

Amy DeFreitas had to leave at 5:30 p.m.

Mike Hinrichsen stated he has shared his vision with several people and everyone he has shared this presentation supports the vision.

Mike Hinrichsen noted we have started the planning of a Metamora to Germantown Hills Trail with the help of a grant from Tri-County Planning Commission.

**6. Discussion with Roy Bockler on Woodford County Revolving Loan Fund phase out and potential grants available through DCEO**

Mike Hinrichsen stated the State is doing away with the revolving loan fund and there is the potential for two projects with the fund balance that is remaining.

Roy Bockler stated he doesn't think it has been determined who or what is eligible but all communities will have a chance to bring something forward.

Mike stated he would like to work with Roy on the Village's possibilities to fund a project.

**7. ITEP Grant - Update on Village action to submit grant request through Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. Action items as part of the grant request.**

Ann Sasso reviewed the ITEP Grant Application. The Village is planning on applying for the grant to build a multi-use trail from the daycare over to the new library with a pedestrian crossing to the shopping center. The trail will continue to the triangle park area which will then connect to the south end of the shopping center. Along the trail there will be a water feature, flags, benches, landscaped areas and lighting. The deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup> with the announcement of selected projects in the Spring of 2018.

Melissa Heil suggested the idea of a splash water area if it could work into the plan as a place for kids to spend some time in the park areas along the trail.

**8. Jacquie Taylor-Germantown Hills Resident-Review of GPEDC Bravelaunch Program and Startup Business Idea**

Zach and Jacquie Taylor presented to the committee their business idea they had presented at the Bravelaunch program.

Paul Herzog had to leave at 6:00 p.m.

Their idea includes a grocery store model call Aunt Yogi's Kitchen. He noted their next step is to meet with rural folks to collect ideas and get more data and then look to see how they can implement their idea.

The committee liked the business plan and was supportive in helping in any way they could.

**9. EDC Chairman/Director/Village President Reports**

Ann Sasso noted Mike will be sharing the vision at the Germantown Hills Chamber meeting next week.

**10. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce Update-The Halloween on the Hill event went well.**

**11. School Updates and upcoming events-**

Eric McAllister noted the expansion went well and the groups that moved into the old school are settling in.

Mike Hinrichsen explained he had attended the County Facilities sales tax meeting addressing the issue that is going to be on the ballot. This would impose a 1% sales tax with some exclusions.

Melissa Heil noted the High School still has ongoing efforts to support cultural diversity with the planning of regular meetings.

Ann Sasso noted the sale of the old library to the School has had a delay but they are working through it.

## **12. Business round table updates/public comments-**

Mike Hinrichsen introduced Barry Logan and Russ Cotton Woodford County board members from District 2 that were in attendance.

Ansel Burditt was in attendance. He is running for a Woodford County District 2 Board Member.

Randy Nash reported the Fire District is moving forward on looking to purchase a storm shelter and the possibility of replacing the ambulance.

Mike Hinrichsen stated as a part of the Natural Hazard Mitigation plan there may be grants available for a storm shelter. Mike noted at the meeting there were approximately 9 people from Woodford County. There are many benefits of being a part of this with one in that we are eligible for FEMA.

Bob Sutton noted the Water Company has a new board member, Dr. Slagel.

Marty Clinch noted at Bravelaunch there were six other creative startups.

Melissa Heil reported there was a meeting on the need to build a pool in the area and would encourage someone from the Village to go to the next meeting.

Rich Brecklin reported there will be a bid opening on the sewer construction for the new subdivision off of Ten Mile Creek Road.

Barry Logan stated it is exciting to see this group take advantage of what Tri-County Planning Commission and PPUATS has to offer as Woodford County has chosen not to. Unfortunately, they would rather hinder development rather than promote it.

Russ Cotton dittoed Barry's comments and stated it is encouraging that Germantown Hills is moving forward.

**13. Next meeting-December 14, 2017 5:00 p.m.-**The next meeting will be on December 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

**14. Adjournment-**A motion was made by Melissa Heil to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Amy Pace. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk